From the Ground Up:

Benchmarking

The Vision and Values

Of Our

Strategic Social Plan

Phase 2 of the Social Audit

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Introduction

The Strategic Social Plan (SSP), introduced by the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador in 1998, outlined a vision, goals and principles to guide social development in the province. The vision is of a ***healthy, educated, distinctive, self-reliant and prosperous people living in vibrant, supportive communities within sustainable regions.***

The SSP emphasized a new approach for dealing with social issues. It called for greater collaboration among government departments and with community partners, using solid evidence for making decisions about policies and programs, and sharing resources to offer better services to people. Government committed to report on its progress by the end of 2003 through a social audit.

The ***Social Audit*** is an independent review of the social and economic well being of communities. It is about taking stock, finding ways to measure what is happening in our daily lives and making certain that our programs and polices are meeting peoplefls needs.

From the Ground Up: Benchmarking the Values and Vision of our Strategic Social Plan is one of the first steps in completing the Social Audit. You will hear much more about our social and economic progress over the next several months.

This report presents a picture of where we are today in terms of our health and well-being around a number of key topics, or indicators. We selected these indicators because they are used nationally and internationally to measure well-being, and this makes it possible to compare the province to other jurisdictions. Where possible, information is presented according to SSP regions (see the map on page 4). The exception to this is for our health data where information is broken down by health regions. No conclusions are drawn in this report, though information presented is likely to raise plenty of questions.

Future audits will use the same indicators so we will be able to measure our progress over time. Data used can be verified through Community Accounts, the information system that was developed for the Strategic Social Plan and its Social Audit. Community Accounts contains a wealth of information about communities, regions and the province as a whole, and was designed to help us measure social and economic well-being. For a look at Community Accounts, go to www.communityaccounts.ca

Other phases of the audit include:

> *Implementing the Goals of the SSP* - Changing the way that government programs and policies are developed and implemented is a major goal of the SSP. Is there greater collaboration among government departments and with key stakeholders in the community? Are we working together to share limited resources and address regional issues? This phase will look at strategies implemented over the

past five years to improve the social and economic well-being of our citizens. This phase is due to be completed by late spring, 2003.

Evaluation for the Future - We need to make sure that government programs and polices are developed and implemented based on strong statistical evidence, have clear target groups and measurable results. In this final phase we assess a selected number of programs that are financed by government to see if they are making a difference in the lives of people and communities. Are we getting the best value from our limited resources? The phase, along with the consolidated Social Audit report, will be ready by late fall in 2003.

The Social Audit is about taking stock, about finding ways to measure what is happening in our daily lives, and about making certain our programs and policies are meeting the real needs of people.

Strategic Social Plan Regions
Newfoundland & Labrador
Legend
Northeast Avalon
Avalon
Eastern
Central
Cormack - Grenfell
Labrador
QUEBEC
QUEBEC

Healthy People

Health is a prerequisite to a good quality of life and, therefore, is one of the most important factors in determining our level of well-being. If we are unhealthy, it negatively impacts many other aspects of our lives. Conversely, if we are healthy, we can act upon the other aspects of our lives to improve our quality of life.

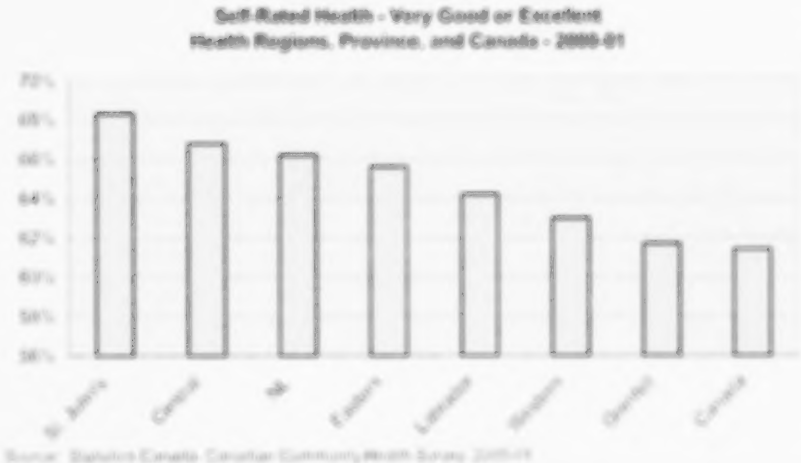
This section helps us to understand

- How healthy we think we are; how healthy we actually are; those illnesses and accidents we are dying of; how long we can expect to live and those personal behaviours that might be related to poor health.
- Positive and negative changes in our health status that have taken place over time.

Although we are healthier than in the past much needs to be improved and, therefore, a wellness strategy has been released by the Provincial Government that sets specific targets on many of the areas highlighted in this section.

1.1 How do we rate our general health?

In 2001, 66% of men and women surveyed in this province rated their health as excellent to very good, almost 5 percentage points higher than the Canadian average. All health regions of the province were at or above the Canadian average of 61.4%, ranging from 61.7% for the Grenfell Health region to 68.3% for the St. John's Health region.



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Community Health Survey, 2000-01

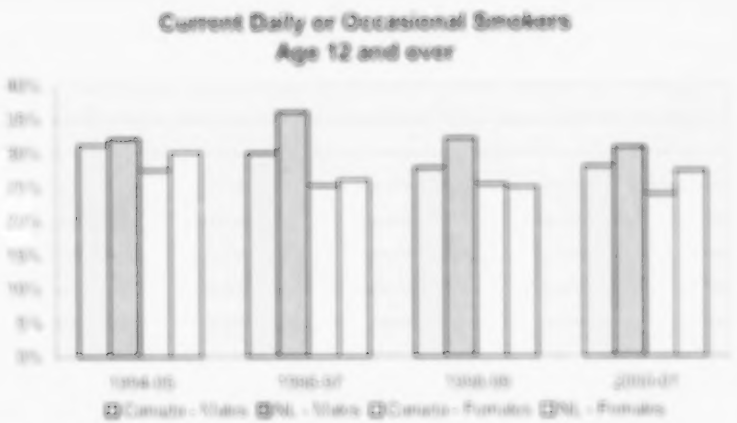
Almost half of the province's seniors (47.1%) rated their health as excellent to very good compared to 36.5% for Canada.

In the island portion of the province, men aged 40-59 and women aged 60+ were most likely to indicate excellent mental health. Forty-three percent of those aged 18 and older indicated excellent mental health while a further 48% reported good mental health, similar to 1985. In general, women were slightly less positive about their mental health than men.

In 2000-01 93% of males and females aged 12 and over, surveyed in this province were found to show no symptoms of depression. These percentages were slightly higher than for Canada at 89% and also marginally higher than a similar study in 1994-95.

1.2 Are our behaviours healthy? What about smoking?

The proportion of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, aged 12 years and over who said they were daily or occasional smokers continues to decrease although it remains somewhat higher than for Canada.

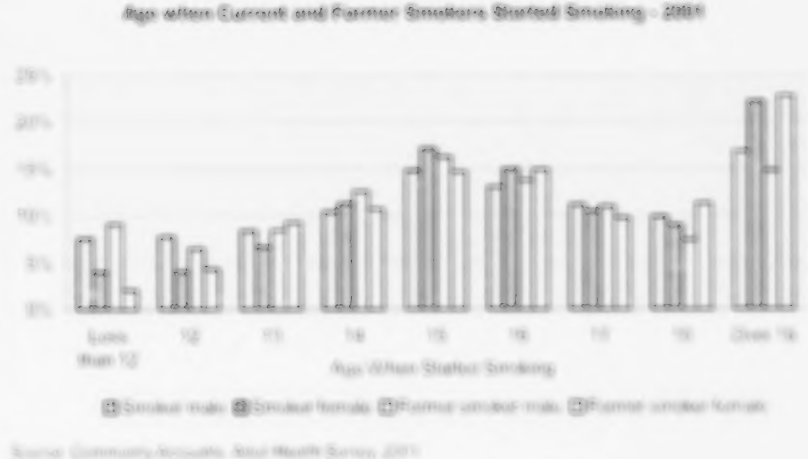


Source: 1994-95 NPHS; 2000-01 CCHS

Boys in this province appear to start smoking somewhat earlier than the Canadian average - about 48% and 41% respectively start before the age of 15.

About half of men in this province who are current daily smokers and of men who are former smokers started before they were 16 years old and before the age of 19 over 80% had started.

About 40% of women who are current daily smokers and of women who have quit smoking had started before they were 16 years old and before they were 19 years old about 77% had started.



Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

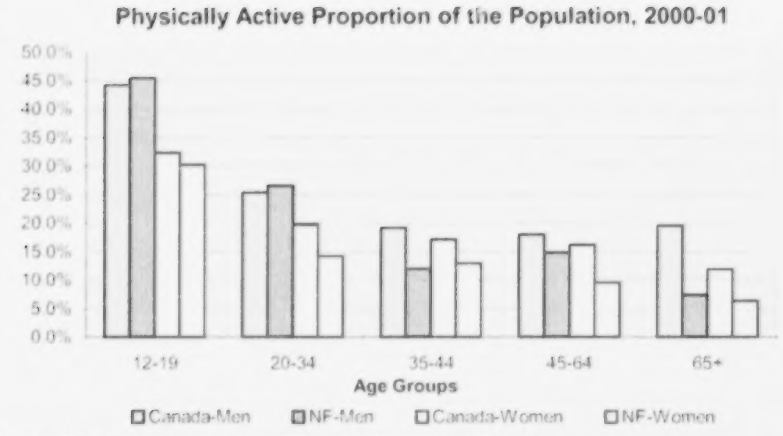
A 1999 survey in the Labrador portion of the province found that the percentage of youth aged 12 to 18 who smoked, either occasionally or daily, varied with geographic location. They found that in Happy Valley/Goose Bay/North West River 32% of youth smoked, in Labrador City /Wabush 24% of youth were smokers and in Sheshatshiu, Davis Inlet and Cartwright/Black Tickle the rates were 80%, 57% and 41% respectively.

A 2000 survey of communities on the north coast of Labrador (Rigolet, Makkovik, Postville, Hopedale and Nain) found that 56% of those aged 16 to 18 years said they smoked every day and a further 11% said they smoked occasionally. Seventeen percent of those aged 12 to 15 years said they smoked every day and an additional 7% said they smoked occasionally. Overall the same proportions of boys and girls were current smokers, either occasionally or every day. Ninety-five percent of youth who reported ever smoking had started at age 15 or younger and 57% had started at age 12 or younger.

1.3 Are our behaviours healthy? How physically active are we?

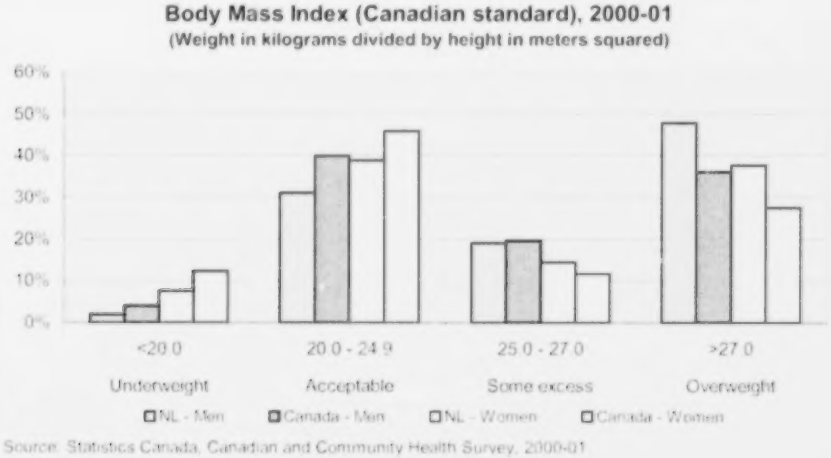
More Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are reporting they are physically active than in 1994-95; however in 2000-01 we were about 5 percentage points below the Canadian average. Our proportion of physically active 12-19 year-olds is about the same as the national average, for both young men and young women.

What is most striking is the difference in activity levels reported by young women in the province compared to young men. Differences are less dramatic for older ages but women in this province and in Canada are less physically active than men and the proportion that is physically active declines with age. The least active group are Newfoundland and Labrador women aged 65 years and over.



1.4 Are Newfoundlanders and Labradorians overweight?

In 2001, almost half of men and over one third of women in this province between the ages of 20 and 64 were overweight.



1.5 Are our behaviours healthy? How much do we drink?

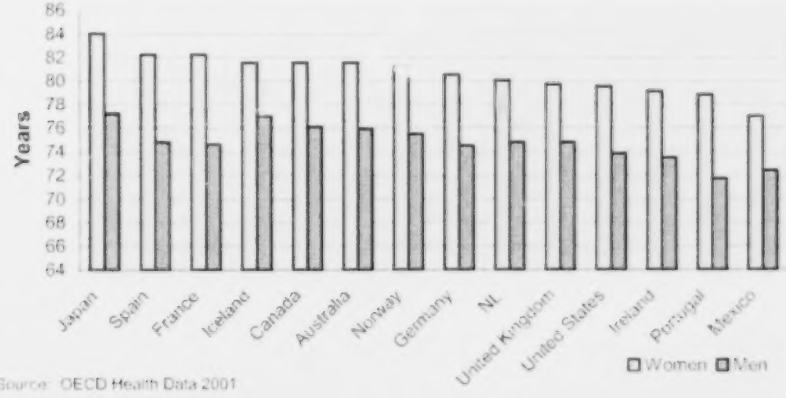
Our rates of "heavy drinking" are considerably higher than Canada, particularly for men. In this province in a 2000-01 survey, 40.5% of men and 16.3% of women age 12 years and over who said they drank, indicated they had five or more drinks on one occasion twelve or more times in the past year compared to Canada, where the rate for men was 28.3% and for women 11.2%.

1.6 How long can we expect to live? How long can we expect to live disability-free?

Life expectancy at birth is longer than ever before, almost equal to Canada with gradual increases still occurring. The overall life expectancy for the province in 1999 is 77.7 years, an increase of 2.3 years from 1979 when it was 75.4 years. Life expectancy for women is 80.2 years, and continues to be longer than that for men, at 75.2 years although men are closing the gap. Although the life expectancy in Canada is slightly higher, 76.3 years for Canadian men and 81.7 years for women, the relative gap between the province and Canada has been gradually closing in recent years.

Life expectancy for both men and women in this province was higher than in the majority of the main industrialized countries in 1998, the most recent year for which such comparisons are available.

Life Expectancy - Selected Industrialized Countries - 1998

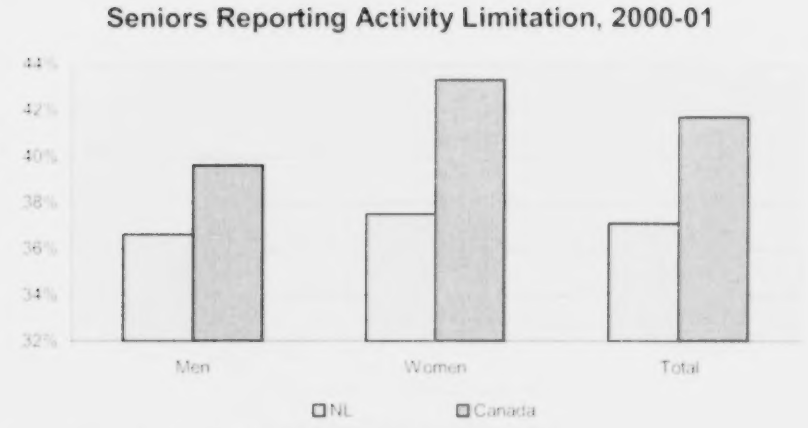


Source: OECD Health Data 2001

Disability-free life expectancy introduces the concept of quality of life, by speaking to the years of life we can expect to live free of **any** activity limitation. In 1996, the latest year for which data are available, disability-free life expectancy at birth for men in this province was 65.9 years compared to Canada at 66.9 years. For women in this province it was 70.4 years, similar to Canada at 70.2 years.

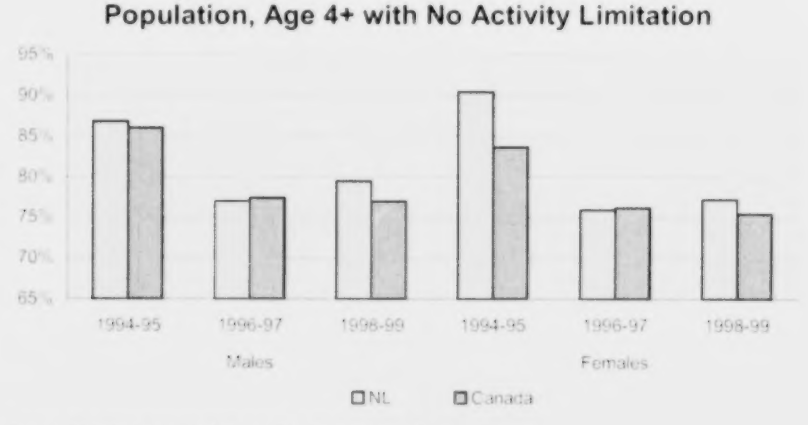
1.7 What proportion of seniors requires no assistance in daily activity?

Women age 65 and over in this province in 2000-01 were slightly less likely to report activity limitations than in Canada as a whole. Similar proportions of male seniors in this province and in Canada reported activity limitations.



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian and Community Health Survey, 2000-01

1.8 What proportion of the population requires no assistance in daily activity?
For the most part, a greater proportion of males and females over four years of age in this province report no activity limitation than is the case for Canada.



Source: Statistics Canada, National Population Health Survey

1.9 Do babies get a good start?
About 5% of babies born in the province in 1999 had low birth weights (less than 2500 grams) and of these, 1% had very low birth weights, weighing less than 1500 grams (3.3 lbs). The low birth weight rate for Canada was 5.6%.

1.10 Are teenagers getting pregnant?

Fewer teenagers are becoming pregnant in this province compared to Canada. In 1998 the teenage pregnancy rate in this province was 31.5 pregnancies per 1000 women aged 15 to 19 compared to Canada with 41.7 per 1000.

1.11 Are teenagers having babies?

Fewer babies are being born to teenage mothers in this province. The provincial rate has declined considerably from 1991 when it was 31.0 per 1000. In 1999 the rate was 20.1 per thousand while for Canada it was 18.7 per 1000. In the year 2000, 385 babies were born to mothers aged less than 20 years while in the year 1993 there were 660 such babies.

1.12 If we don't live until old age, what will we die of?

When a person dies from any cause before the age of 75, the death is considered premature. "Potential life" has been lost. That potential is the difference between "the age at death" and "age 75." In 1996 the province lost 5,541 years of potential life per 100,000 population. Health regions ranged from 4,181 in Grenfell to 7,432 for Health Labrador while for Canada it was 5,697. The primary causes of potential life loss in 1999 are provided below.

Number of years of potential life lost in 1999 - rates per 100,000 population aged 0-74

Type	NL	Canada
Accidents, etc.	582.0	706.6
Lung cancer	470.6	417.9
Heart Attacks	389.3	312.1
Suicides	233.6	453.2
Cerebrovascular	180.1	139.6
Bowel cancer	178.6	134.7

Source: Statistics Canada

Potential life loss due to accidents in this province has declined significantly over the years from 1979 when it stood at 2450.6 per 100,000 for men and 681.3 for women. In 1999 the rates were 883.1 for men and 279.8 for women. These rates are lower than for Canada as a whole where the rates in 1999 were 1036.0 per 100,000 for men and 374.5 for women.

1.13 Is cancer a problem?

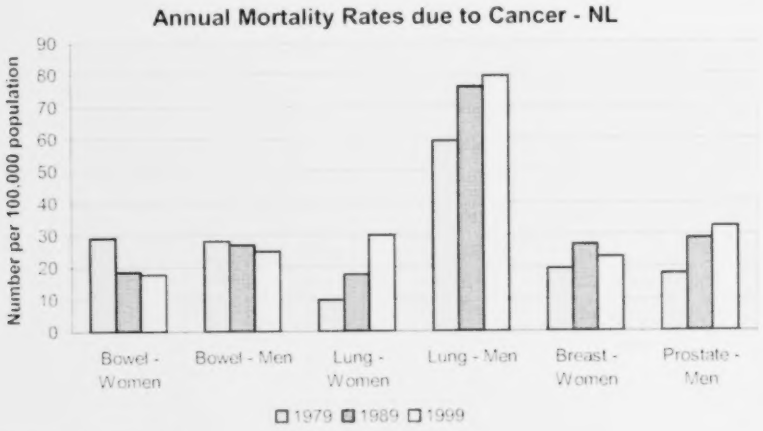
The three most common cancers for men in this province in 2001, as in Canada, were prostate, bowel, and lung. The rate of lung cancer for men in this province (53 per 100,000 population) was 31% lower than Canada and the rate of prostate cancer (95 per 100,000 population) was about 20% lower while the rate of bowel cancer (72 per 100,000 population) was about 22% higher than Canada.

The three most common cancers for women in this province, as in Canada, were breast, bowel, and lung. The rate of lung cancer in this province was almost half the Canadian average (26 and 47 per 100,000 population, respectively); the rate of breast

cancer (95 per 100,000 population) was about 10% lower while the rate for bowel cancer (48 per 100,000 population) was about 26% higher.

For the last 20 years mortality rates due to bowel cancer for men in this province have been similar to those for Canada. Mortality rates for men due to lung cancer have been somewhat higher than Canadian rates since the mid 1990s. The mortality rate for prostate cancer in this province has increased by about 80% since 1979 and in 1999 was slightly higher than the Canadian rate, which has remained relatively stable since 1979.

The provincial and Canadian mortality rates for bowel cancer in women are similar and have been declining over the past 20 years. The provincial mortality rate due to breast cancer is similar to the Canadian rate. The provincial mortality rate for lung cancer in women, historically lower than that for Canada, was approaching the Canadian rate by 1999.



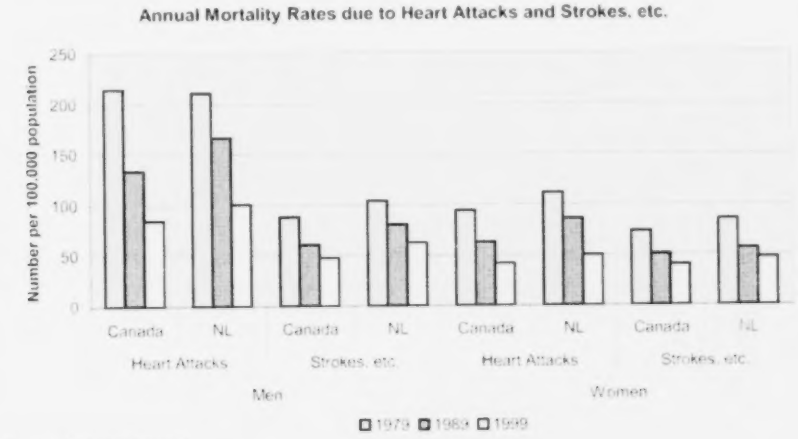
Source: Statistics Canada

1.14 What about heart attacks and cerebrovascular diseases (strokes, etc.)?

The annual mortality rates due to heart attack, for both men and women, have been steadily declining in this province as in Canada. The provincial rates for heart attacks in 1999 were less than half the rates in 1979. Nevertheless in 1999, provincial mortality rates due to heart attacks are higher than the Canadian rates – about 20% higher for both men and women. The mortality rate due to heart attacks for men in 1999 was 100.5 per 100,000 population - double that for women at 49.8 per 100,000.

The annual mortality rates due to cerebrovascular diseases for both men and women, have also been steadily declining in this province as in Canada. Since 1979 there has been a decrease of over 40% for both men and women (to 62.0 and 47.2 per 100,000

population respectively in 1999). Nevertheless, provincial rates in 1999 are higher than Canadian rates by about 31% for men and 18% for women.



Source: Statistics Canada

1.15 What about diabetes?

Health professionals predict an increase in diabetes over the next ten years. In 2001, Newfoundlanders and Labradorians reported slightly higher rates of this disease with 5.8% of those surveyed aged 12 and over indicating they have diabetes, compared to 4.1% for Canada. As in the rest of the country, older people accounted for the largest proportions, although considerably higher at 9% of 45-64 year olds and 19.1% of those aged 65 years and over compared to the national rates at 6% and 12.7% respectively.

Educated People

Our vision is a population that is educated - that has the basic skills and knowledge for everyday needs and is qualified for labour force participation to meet the requirements of a modern internationally competitive economy.

Education is important to help us enjoy life, for our general health and well-being and to enable us to undertake well-paid, interesting work. An educated population forms the foundation for a modern democratic society.

Education is normally acquired through schooling, from our parents and from our workplaces. To see how educated we are we would ideally test the skills of our population. Since data are not available for skills, we often use education credentials e.g. high school graduation, university degrees, etc.

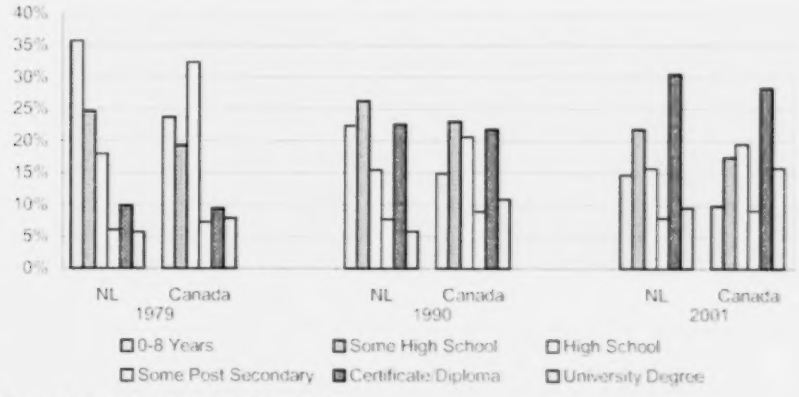
2.1 What education credentials have we attained?

Newfoundlanders and Labradorians have attained substantially higher levels of education in recent decades. The proportion of the population aged 15 and over with at least high school diplomas has increased from 39.6% in 1979 to 63.6% in 2001.

For 25-34 year-olds the improvement has been even more dramatic – from 54.3% in 1979 to 84.4% in 2001.

In 2001, only 15.4% of those aged 25 to 29 had less than high school compared to 10.3% for Canada.

Educational Attainment - 1979, 1990 and 2001



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

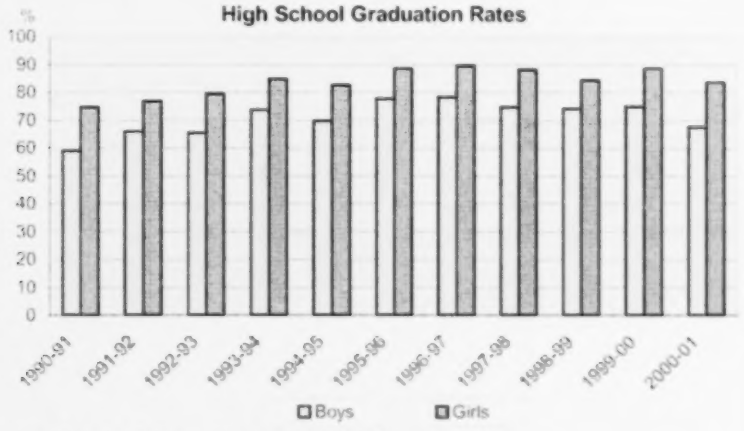
Nevertheless Newfoundland and Labrador has a smaller proportion of university graduates, 9.5% in 2001 compared to Canada at 15.8% and a higher proportion with less than high school - 36.4% compared to Canada with 27.2%.

2.2 Do men and women have the same levels of education credentials?

In the year 2001 in this province, 87.4% of women, aged 25-34, had graduated from high school or above, compared to 82.7% of men. Women in this age group also had the greater proportion of university degrees: 21.5% compared to 14.8% for men.

2.3 What's happening with high school graduation rates?

Although high school graduation rates for boys have improved somewhat, they are less likely than girls to finish high school.



Source: Education Statistics - Elementary-Secondary (Table 39), 2001-02

The high school drop out rate also fell sharply throughout the 1990s, according to data from the Statistics Canada Youth in Transition Survey. Among 20 year-olds in this province the rate of those who had not completed high school and were not working towards its completion fell from 29% for young men in 1991 to 15% in 1999 and for young women from 19% to 6%. Young men are now at the Canadian average and young women some 3% better than the Canadian average.

2.4 How do our students compare with others?

In the year 2000 Newfoundland and Labrador participated in the first *Program for International Student Assessment*. Fifteen year-old students from our province scored significantly lower in reading, science and mathematics than the Canadian average, although the performance was at or above the middle of the international range e.g. Germany, the United States and the Russian Federation.

Girls scored significantly better than boys in reading, however there were no significant differences between the scores of boys and girls in mathematics or science.

2.5 How are we doing with literacy in younger children?

In tests done in 2002 about 80% of children in Grade 3 could understand the literal meaning of what they had read. They had difficulty, however, in answering questions about text that required critical thinking skills and had problems in supporting their ideas. In 2002, 79% of children were at a level acceptable for the end of Grade 3 for the reading of a story and 61% for the reading of poetry – an increase from 63% and 49% respectively in 2001. However, only half of children were at a level acceptable for the end of Grade 3 for the reading of "informational" text such as children's magazines, poetic or visual text such as posters and advertising.

In the listening component of these same tests, over 85% of children demonstrated a literal understanding of text, but only 53% of children were at a level acceptable for the end of Grade 3 for critical thinking. About 77% of students tested were at a level acceptable for the end of Grade 3 for the speaking component in which they had to give a presentation to their class.

The writing skills of Grade 3 students throughout the province have improved considerably since 1995, and by May 2002 over 90% of students were at a level acceptable for the end of Grade 3. This means they were able to write clear and focused content, constructing and organizing sentences in a predictable way that showed at least some flow and variation. They also demonstrated a good grasp of writing conventions and using everyday words and expressions.

2.6 How are we doing with literacy in adults?

In 1989, the last time large-scale testing of the literacy and numeracy skills of adults in this province was carried out, 24% of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians were at the lowest reading skill levels and 29% at the lowest numeracy skill level compared to 16% and 14% respectively, of Canadians. This means they would have difficulties in such everyday tasks as determining the correct amount of medicine to give to a child, transferring information from a catalogue page to an order form or filling out a deposit slip at the bank.

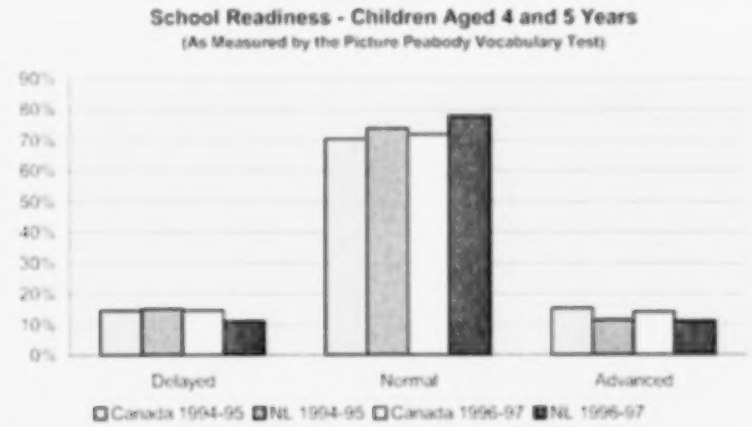
No other major testing of adults has been completed since, although in 1994 a Canada-wide survey included Atlantic Canada. Numbers were too small to provide results for this province.

2.7 Are our children ready to start school?

In a 1994-95 survey, 85% of children were school ready and by the 1996-97 survey this had increased to 89%.

The percentage of children considered "delayed" in the province was similar to Canada as a whole in 1994-95 but by 1996-97 the percentage was lower than Canada.

A higher percentage of children in Canada as a whole were considered "advanced" compared to the province in both 1994-95 and 1996-97 when the percentages were 11% for this province and about 14% for Canada.



Source: Community Accounts, National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, Statistics Canada

2.8 What do our high school graduates do the year after they graduate?

In 2001 almost three-quarters of high school graduates enrolled directly in college or university.

In 1995 and 1996 a consistently large proportion of high school graduates enrolled directly in university. In 2001 this proportion was 45.9%.

The proportion of high school graduates who enrolled directly in college programs has increased by about 5 percentage points between 1995 and 2001 to 25%.

A 1998 study found that about 80% of the 1995 graduating class had enrolled in post-secondary - 64.7% went directly into post-secondary programs while an additional 15% attended as of summer 1997.

How many **additional** students from the June 2001 graduating class enrolled in post-secondary in the fall of 2002 is not known. However since in the 1995-96 study 64.7% translated into 80%, in all likelihood 70.9% would translate into something the same or higher.

A 1999 Canadian study of youth in transition found that Newfoundland and Labrador had the third highest proportion among the provinces of 18-20 year-olds in some form of post-secondary education. Less positively, this province also had the highest proportion, 8.4%, who had enrolled in post-secondary but had dropped out.

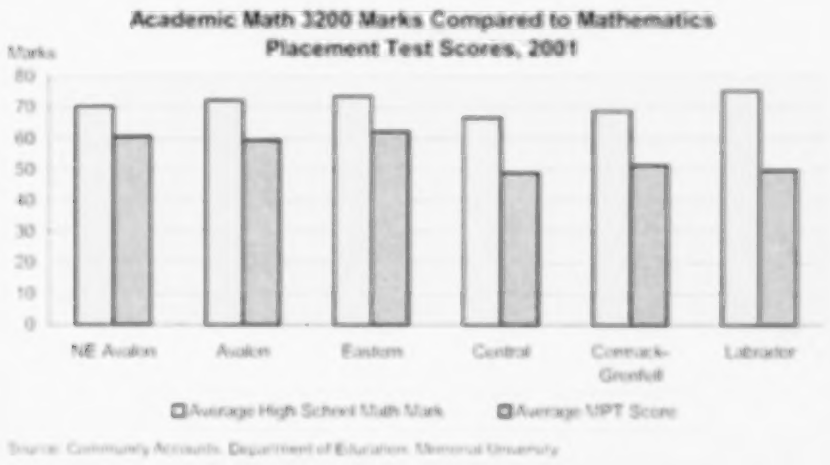
2.9 What happens with mathematics for first year students at Memorial University?

Students who successfully completed Advanced Mathematics in High School may register for Mathematics 1000, which is the required course for those wishing to do degrees in business, the sciences and engineering.

First-year students entering Memorial University, who took Academic Math 3200 in high school, must complete a Mathematics Placement Test (MPT) to determine which math course the student is eligible to take at university.

In 1998, 44.5% of academic math students and 6.5% of advanced math students in high school tested at or below the level expected of a student entering junior high school on the mathematics skill inventory test. A further 40% of high school academic math and 37.4% of advanced high school mathematics students scored at or below that expected of a student entering high school on the mathematics skill inventory test. Only 2.3% of advanced math students were calculus ready compared to 0.4% of academic math students. About 29.3% of those who wrote the MPT in the years 1999-2001 scored less than 50% while a further 13.8% scored between 50 and 55%.

There are considerable regional differences in the performance of students on the MPT.

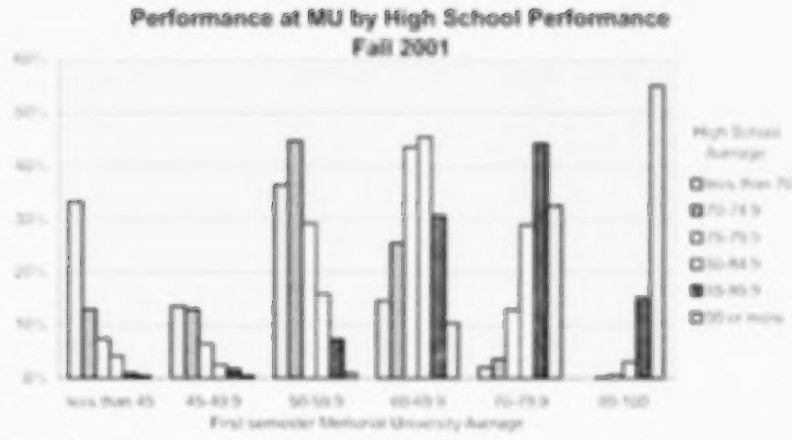


Source: Community Accounts, Department of Education, Memorial University

2.10 Do high school marks predict performance at university?

Although performance of students at university is generally linked to high school performance, the prediction does not hold true for all students.

Students with a high school average between 70-75% experienced some difficulty in their first semester at Memorial, about one quarter of them getting a first-semester average of less than 50%.



Source: Memorial University Academic Performance Profile, Fall 2001

2.11 Are the same number of men and women completing university?

In recent years, the largest percentages of undergraduate degrees have been conferred on women. In 2002, women accounted for 61%, an increase of 5 percentage points since 1997.

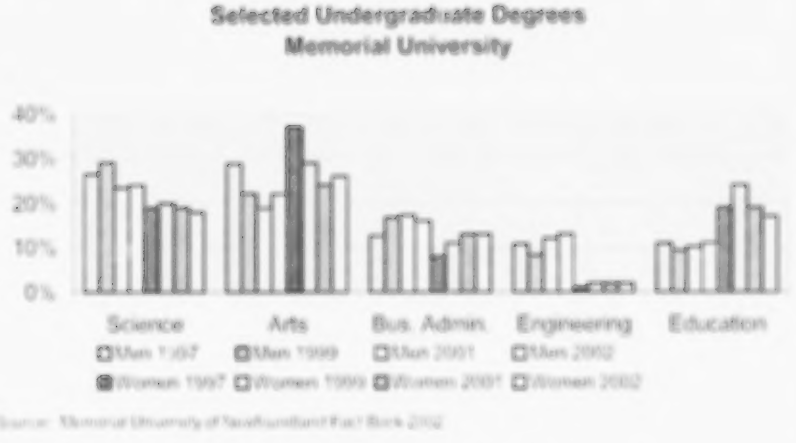
Women also account for the largest percentage of graduate degrees – 52% in 2001.

2.12 What university degrees do we get?

Women are most likely to graduate with arts degrees, primarily in sociology, English, or psychology. The proportions of women and of men graduating in the arts have declined considerably between 1997 and 2002. Men, who graduate in arts, do so primarily in English, history, sociology and political science.

In 2002, the largest proportion of undergraduate degrees received by men was in science, primarily in biology or computer science. An additional 13% graduated with engineering degrees and 16% with business administration or commerce degrees.

The proportion of women graduating with undergraduate science degrees, primarily in biology, psychology and biochemistry (nutrition), has remained relatively consistent at around 19% and at about 2% for engineering while the proportion graduating in business administration has risen from about 13% to 18% in 2002. The proportion of women who graduate with nursing degrees has risen by eight percentage points.



Source: Memorial University of Newfoundland Fact Book 2002

2.13 What are the graduation rates for Memorial University?

The graduation rates for five-year programs, also including the cooperative degree programs such as engineering and business have been about 80% for the last 10 years. While rates for four-year programs, the typical Bachelor's degree program, have been consistently lower, there have been improvements, especially in recent years, and in 1998-99 stood at 65%.

2.14 What college diplomas do we get?

The majority of graduates of college one-year and three-year programs are male – about 60% to 70% in one-year programs and about 70% in three-year programs. This is largely due to the continued trend of higher male participation in the traditional one-year trades-related programs, as well as the three-year engineering technology programs. Women continue to dominate the two-year programs (about 60% of graduates) particularly in business-related programs.

There have been substantial increases in the number of men and women graduating from information technology programs as labour market demands have changed. Between 1997-98 and 1999-00, there has been a slight decline – from 1207 graduates to 1121 graduates. In 1999-00 about 25% of all college graduates graduated from information technology programs.

2.15 What are the graduation rates from the public college?

About 60% of students entering one or two year programs at the College of the North Atlantic complete their programs at the expected graduation date. This graduation rate is considerably lower for three-year programs, in which only about 40% of students entering between1988 to 1995 actually completed at the expected time. Of those who entered in 1996, only about 33% completed at the expected time in 1999.

2.16 How do our graduates perform on national professional certification examinations?

In most years, graduates from this province perform at or above the national average in the following national certification examinations:

- Certified General Accountant
- Chartered Accountants (CA)
- Canadian Nurses Association Testing Registration
- Medical Radiography
- Medical Laboratory Sciences
- Respiratory Therapy
- Licensed Practical Nurse

2.17 How do our candidates perform on national apprenticeship examinations?

In most years since 1992, the pass rates on the Interprovincial Red Seal Examinations for candidates from this province have consistently been considerably higher than the national rate.

2.18 Do we continue to participate in education and training?

In 1997, about 19% of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians, the lowest proportion in the country, reported they participated in adult education and training[1] programs compared to the highest proportion in British Columbia at 32%.

More positively, those who do participate in adult education and training programs in this province spend significantly more time engaged than those in other provinces, an average of 307 hours per participant compared with British Columbia at 200 hours and a Canadian average of 209 hours per participant.

The odds of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians receiving employer sponsored education and training was calculated to be the second lowest in the country.

2.19 Do we get training from our employers?

In another survey done in 2001, almost ¼ (48%) of the people reported they had attended courses or seminars provided and/or paid for by their employer. Training, however, is a very broad category and there is no clear idea of exactly what type or extent of training employees actually received. This will require a more detailed question in future surveys.

Nevertheless, 58% reported they had received informal on-the-job training such as learning how to operate equipment or a computer software program.

The majority felt that this job training would be somewhat (37%) or a great deal (47%) of use to them in another job with a different employer.

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[1] Organized, structured programs of education adapted to the needs of persons 17 and older and focused on learners who are not in the regular school or university systems.

Prosperous and Self-reliant People

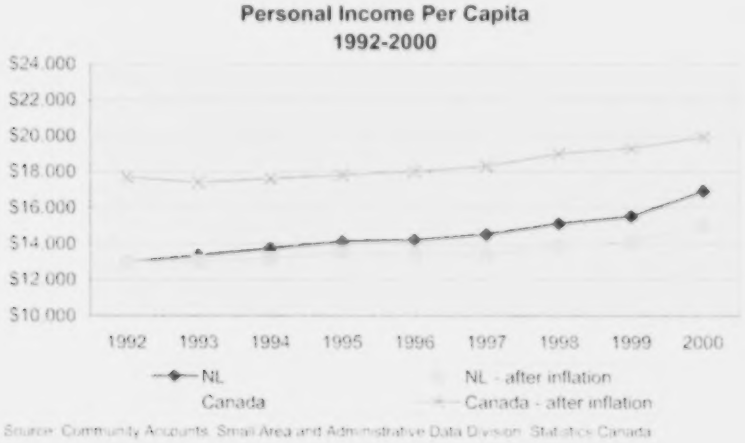
Economic prosperity and economic self-reliance are directly related to our well-being and quality of life. To be prosperous and self-reliant, people need opportunities to find and keep employment in a province with a healthy well-functioning economy.

To determine prosperity and self-reliance, we have focused on a number of relevant issues for families, individuals and children, such as income, source of income, consumption and savings as well as employment patterns.

Although we are more prosperous and self-reliant than in the past, much needs to be improved. The Renewal Strategy for Jobs and Growth released by the provincial government sets out a plan to maintain and build on our economic progress in many of the areas highlighted in this section.

3.1 How does our personal income compare with Canada?

Personal income per capita has risen from $13,000 in 1992 to $16,900 ($15,000 when adjusted for inflation) in the year 2000, some 25.2% lower than Canadian incomes.

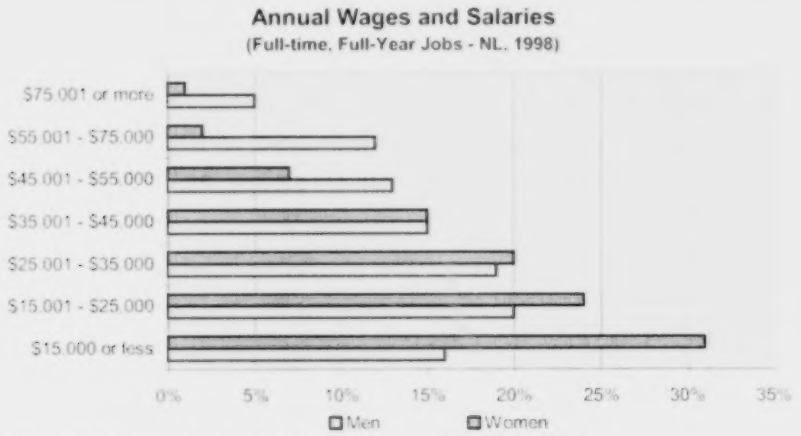


Source: Community Accounts, Small Area and Administrative Data Division, Statistics Canada

Income levels for husband-wife families in this province have remained relatively constant since 1990, at approximately three-quarters of the Canadian income. In 1990, half of two parent families in Newfoundland and Labrador earned more than $35,900. By 2000, this amount had increased by $7,200 to $43,100. After adjusting for inflation, this represented a slight decrease.

3.2 How much income do people in the province earn from full-year, full-time work?

More women than men are employed in full-year, full-time jobs that pay low incomes. Sixteen percent of male full-year full-time workers earned $15,000 or less in 1998 as did 31% of females. On the opposite end, only 1% of women earned over $75,000 compared to 5% of men. Only 25% of women earned $35,000 or more compared to 45% of men.



Source: Statistics Canada, Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID), 1998

3.3 How many of us work in low paying jobs?

Consistently over the past five years, more women than men (15% to 19% more) have earned less than $7.00 per hour.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey

In 2001, 15% of women surveyed in this province had worked for minimum wage at some time during the year compared to only 10% of men.

3.4 How are persons with disabilities faring on income?

In 2001, 14% of the population 18 years of age and older in the province, reported a physical disability that stopped them from doing their routine activities. Almost half of these individuals lived in households with incomes of less than $20,000 per annum; 33% had a total household income of less than $15,000.

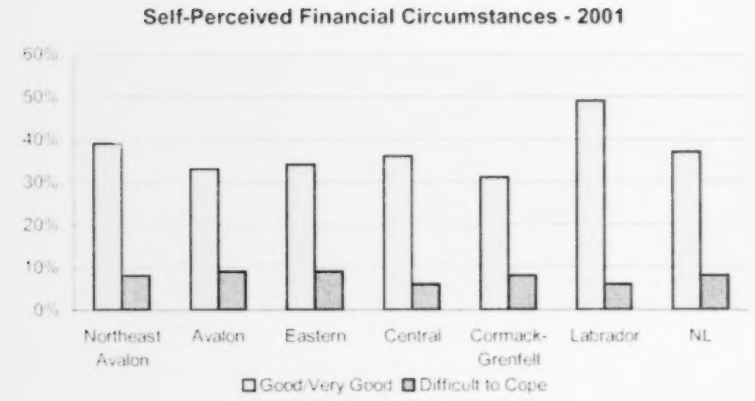
In 1991, an extensive survey of persons with disabilities found about 7% of people in the province aged 15 to 64 had a disability. Most were between 35 and 54 years of age. Approximately 60% of the 15-64 year olds were not in the labour force at the time and only 27% were employed.

In a 2001 Statistics Canada survey, about 12% of people in the province over 15 years of age had a disability. More current information on labour force participation will be available over the next several months.

3.5 Do we think we are coping financially?

92% of people surveyed in the province in 2001 said they were coping financially while a further 8% reported they had difficulty.

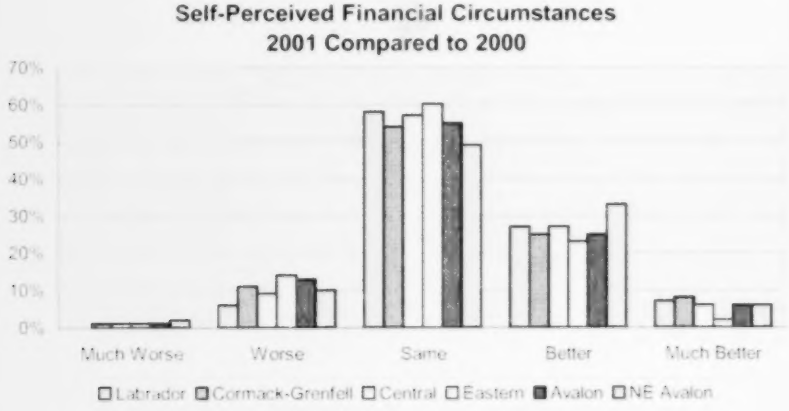
37% of the people in the province said their financial circumstances were good or very good given their annual household income and considering their monthly expenditures on food, housing, transportation, heating, etc. A further 29% considered their financial circumstances to be satisfactory. The highest percentage of people who felt their financial circumstances were good or very good was in the Labrador SSP region (49%) while only 32% said their financial circumstances were good or very good in the Cormack-Grenfell region.



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.6 Do we think we are better off than we were in the past?

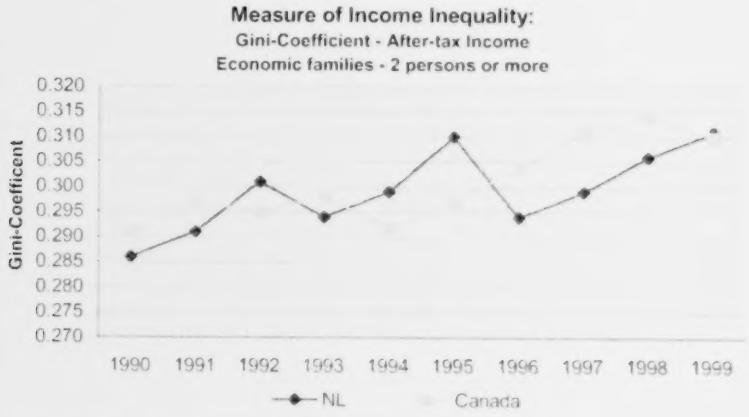
The majority of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians surveyed in 2001 said their family's financial circumstances were about the same as they had been the previous year. About one third in each SSP region considered their households better off.



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.7 How equal are incomes in this province?

In 1999 the province was the same as Canada as a whole but had slightly less income equality than most of the other provinces with the exception of Ontario. The gap between the incomes of those with high incomes and those with low incomes in Newfoundland and Labrador was larger than it was in 1990.



Source: Income in Canada, Catalogue no. 75-202, Statistics Canada

However, Canada and the province have greater income equality than many other countries including Brazil with a Gini Coefficient[2] of .591 in 1997 and France with a Gini Coefficient of .327 in 1995.

3.8 How many of our children live in poverty?[3]

Although the number of children under age 18 living in the province has declined by about 30% since 1991, the number of children living in poverty has not declined at the same rate.

Based on **before**-tax income, 26.2% of children were living in poverty in 2000 compared to 20.5% in 1991. The proportion of children living in poverty in Canada in 1991 was 18.5% and in 2000, 16.5%.

Based on **after**-tax income, the rate is lower - 17.8% in 2000, compared to 15.3% in 1991. The provincial rate was higher than in Canada where 14.2% of those under age 18 lived in low-income families in 1991 decreasing to 12.5% in 2000.

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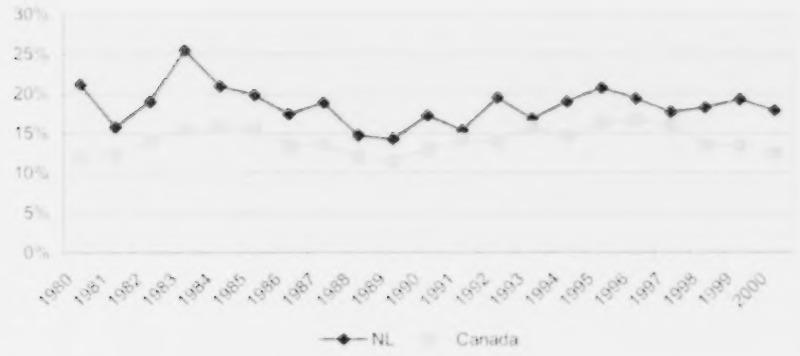
[2] The Gini coefficient ranges from a maximum of 1.0 (perfect inequality) to zero (perfect equality). When the Gini coefficient is zero, all the units have the same income. When the Gini coefficient is 1.0, one unit has all the income, and all the other units have zero income. The higher the Gini coefficient is, the greater the inequality in the distribution of income.

[3] Poor children are those living in families whose total income falls below the Low Income Cut-Off (LICO) as defined by Statistics Canada.

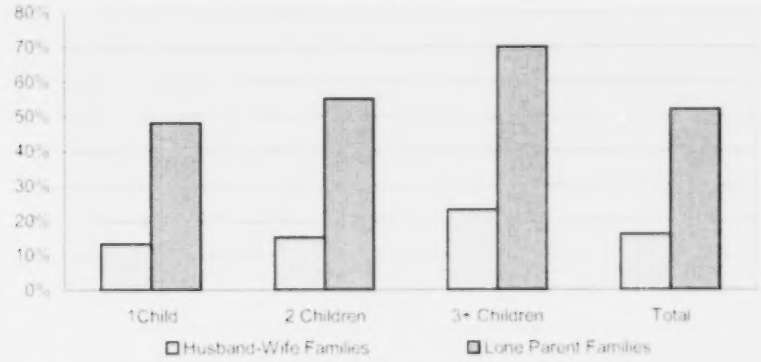
Prevalence of Low Income Children - After Tax



Source: Statistics Canada, Income Trends in Canada, 1980-2000

During the 1990s about half of all lone parent families were living in poverty. Almost half the children living in poverty in Canada live in lone parent families, primarily headed by women. The greater the number of children in a family, the more likely the family will be poor.

Children Living in Poverty by Family Type, 1997
Newfoundland and Labordor



Source: Community Accounts, Small Area and Administrative Data Division, Statistics Canada

3.9 Do we have many people in the province who say they are hungry?

The great majority of people from the island portion of the province[1], 94% of those surveyed, said they have never been without food because of a lack of money. However 10% had worried about not having enough to eat and 15% felt they could not eat the quality or variety of foods they wanted.

In March 2001, Newfoundland and Labrador had the highest per capita rate of food bank use in Canada at 5.4% of the provincial population. After a decade of increases in food bank use, the numbers of people using food banks in this province had decreased significantly compared to the previous year's totals. The decline was restricted to the Eastern Avalon Peninsula however, while need continued to grow in regions outside of St. John's.

3.10 What kind of homes do we live in?

More Newfoundlanders and Labradorians own their own homes than Canadians as a whole. In 1996, 77.1% of the homes in this province were owned compared to 63.2% in Canada. Home ownership in Newfoundland and Labrador was 82% according to a 2001 survey.

Newfoundland homes have an average of seven rooms compared to an average of six rooms in Canadian homes.

Homes in this province were also slightly newer than those in the country as a whole with 54% of them being built after 1971 compared to 50% in Canada.

The average cost of housing in the province in 1996 was 52% lower than in Canada, $70,800 compared to $147,900.

People in Newfoundland and Labrador spend less on shelter according to a 2000 survey; about 16% of average yearly household expenditures compared to about 19% in Canada as a whole. Therefore we have a greater proportion of income available to spend in other areas.

In 2001, about 20% of all households in this province owned a cabin, ranging from a high of 37% in Labrador to a low of 12% in the Northeast Avalon SSP Region.

3.11 How many cars do we own?

In 2000, 82% of Newfoundland and Labrador households owned or leased a car, compared with 88% in Canada as a whole.

3.12 How do we spend our leisure time?

The majority of people in this province and in the country spend the largest part of their leisure time watching television and socializing. We also spend slightly more time on these activities in this province than for Canadians as a whole.

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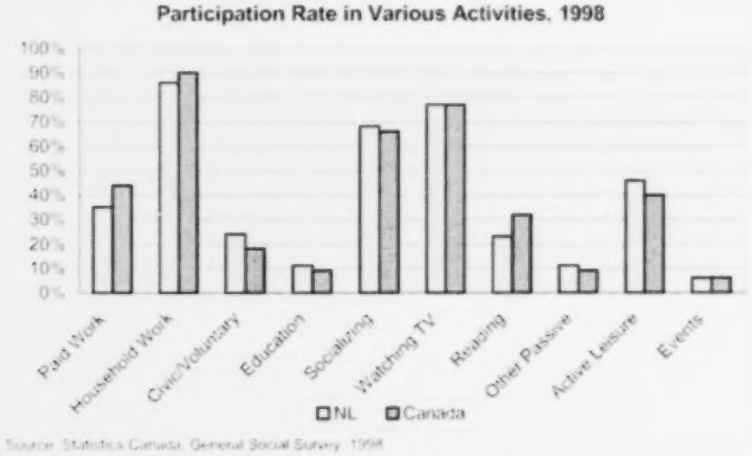
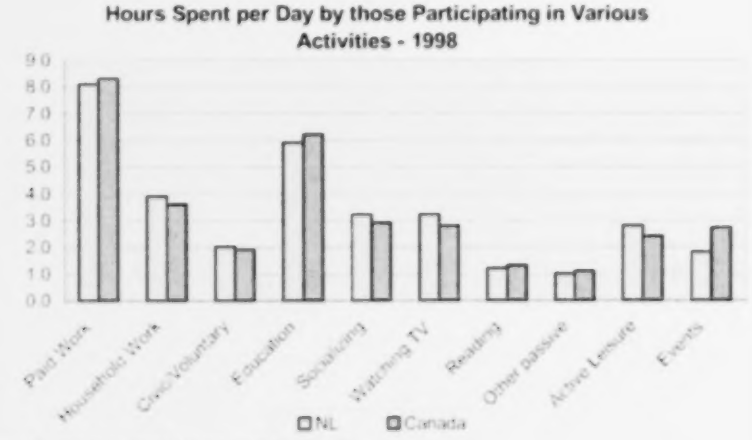
[1] Data were not available for Labrador

A higher proportion of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians participate in sports, in civic and voluntary activities and in socializing compared to other Canadians. On the other hand, fewer of us participate in paid work, in household work or in reading.



Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

Although we participate less in household work, those of us who do, spend more hours per day compared with Canada as a whole. We also spend more hours per day watching television, in civic and voluntary activities, socializing and in active leisure activities. On the other hand we spend fewer hours per day in paid work, educational activities, reading and also sleeping/personal activities.



Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1998

3.13 What home production activities are we engaged in?

Home production activities are an important part of our lives contributing to our overall well-being. Many people do housework, care for children and do other unpaid work around the house. We also hunt and fish, repair personal vehicle, cut/saw wood and renovate/or build our houses and cabins. These home production activities add to our prosperity.

Percent of Population Participating in Home Production Activities			
Home Production Activities	**Men**	**Women**	**Total**
Grow a vegetable garden	19	20	19
Renovate or build a house/cabin	30	22	26
Hunt or fish for food for self and family	46	16	30
Cut saw wood	36	11	23
Make clothing for self or family (sew/knit)	2	31	17
Repair car/ATV/ skidoo	44	13	28
Do general housework	80	97	89
Provide care for children	41	49	45

Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

Most of those surveyed in 2001 in all SSP regions did general housework. As expected, the relatively urban Northeast Avalon SSP region had the smallest percentages that participated in most other home production activities. Hunting or fishing for food was a common home production activity in all SSP Regions, ranging from 36% to 43% of those surveyed, except for the Northeast Avalon, where only 15% participated.

Percent of Population Participating in Home Production Activities						
Home Production Activities	*Labrador*	*Cormack-Grenfell*	*Central*	*Eastern*	*Avalon*	*Northeast Avalon*
Grow a vegetable garden	20	24	25	18	23	14
Renovate or build a house/cabin	33	25	30	23	25	24
Hunt or fish for food for self and family	42	38	43	37	36	15
Cut saw wood	32	28	35	31	26	10
Make clothing for self or family (sew/knit)	20	20	16	18	16	13
Repair car/ATV/ skidoo	36	30	31	31	31	22
Do general housework	91	90	86	80	87	93

Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.14 What is our personal savings rate?

The personal savings rate of people in this province has declined from about 13.3% in 1981 to 1.1% in 2001. This means that for every $100 of after-tax income, in 2001, we could save $1.10. For Canada as a whole, the personal savings rate declined from 17.4% to 4.6% over the same time period.

Source: Statistics Canada, Provincial Economic Accounts, November 2002

3.15 How much income do we get from market sources?

Over the past decade, people in this province have obtained about three-quarters of their total income from market sources compared to about 88% for Canada as a whole.

Source: Community Accounts, Small Area and Administrative Data Division, Statistics Canada

3.16 How many of us are employed?[8]

Newfoundland and Labrador's rate of employment of those aged 20 to 64 has improved over the past 25 years going from 51.7% each month in 1976 to 59.1% in 2001. This trend has followed the country but a gap persists with the Canadian rate of employment still 15 percentage points higher at 73.9% than that of the province.

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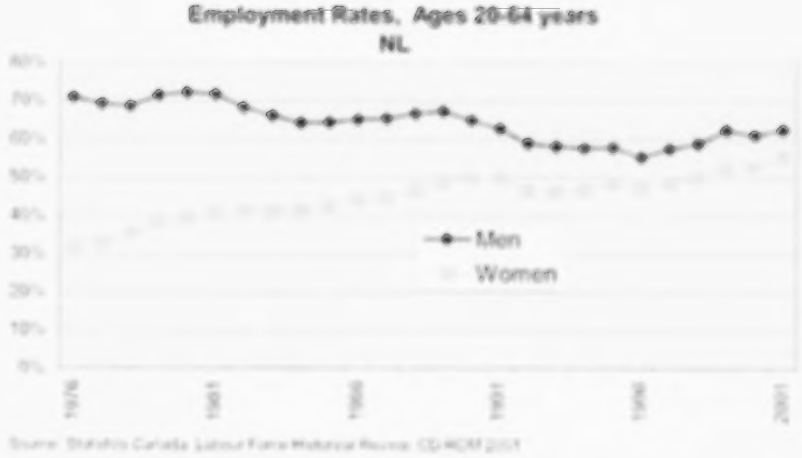
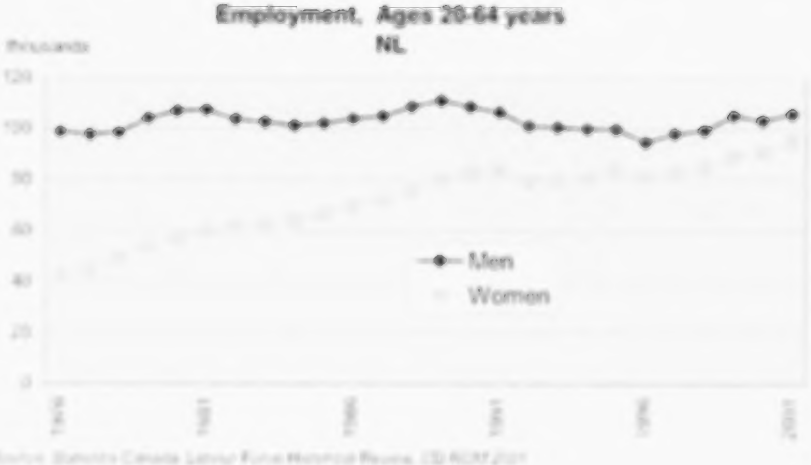
[8] In 2000, Statistics Canada from its monthly Labour Force Survey (LFS) data reported employment levels in the province to be 204,600. Data for the year were estimated by averaging employment over the 12 months. At the same time, taxfiler data, which cover the entire year, showed that 262,000 received income from employment. To understand the reasons for the different numbers, the Newfoundland Statistics Agency (NSA) did its own survey. The NSA survey estimated that 236,400 people were employed in 2001 and provided evidence that many people are employed on a part-year basis, entering and exiting the employment rolls.

For managing economic activity at the national level and preventing inflation or unemployment we need monthly data - so the LFS is the preferred survey. For understanding people's involvement in labour markets when many of the workers work only part of the year, then annual data that show monthly patterns are preferred i.e. the NSA survey.



Because many of the jobs in the province are not full year, the percentage of people actually employed at some time during the year is higher than the 59%. In 2001, about three-quarters of our population had been employed during some portion of the year. Women have substantially closed the gap with men in employment over the past decades.

According to Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey, total employment has been growing over time and in 2001 reached an average monthly high of 211,200.



About 93% of those looking for work in 2001 were successful. Some people worked all year while others worked for part of the year.

3.17 How many of us report income from employment and/or self employment on our income tax returns?

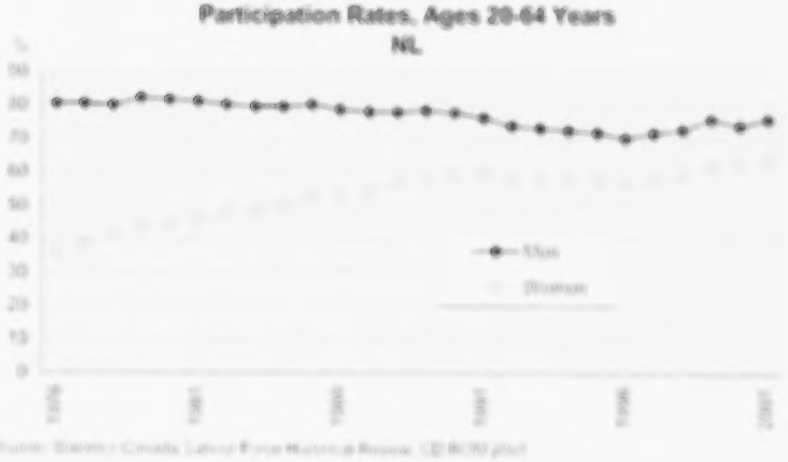
The employment picture looks slightly different if we look at the numbers of people who show income from employment and/or self employment on their income tax returns. From this source, the number of people in the province who were employed dropped from 279,460 in 1990 to 262,000 in 2000. This was a drop of 8.1% from 75.3% of the population to 67.2% of the population.

The number of people in Canada as a whole who were employed also dropped by 3.5% during the same period of time, however, the decrease was less than in the province.

3.18 What percentage of our working age population participates in the labour force?

During 2001, 70% of our adult population age 20 to 64 participated each month in Newfoundland and Labrador labour markets as either employed or unemployed. This compares with a 79.1% participation rate for Canada.

The province's participation rate has increased over the past 25 years, due to the increasing number of women entering the work force. The participation rate for women has grown from 35.9% to 64.4% between 1976 and 2001 while the rate for men has dropped from 80.6% to 75.7%. A similar trend exists in the country as a whole.



Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Historical Review (CD-ROM) 2001

Because many of the jobs in the province are not full year more than 70% of our total population, an estimated 79% of those aged 18-64 in 2001, are in the labour market

for at least part of the year. 87% of men and 72% of women participated in the labour market.

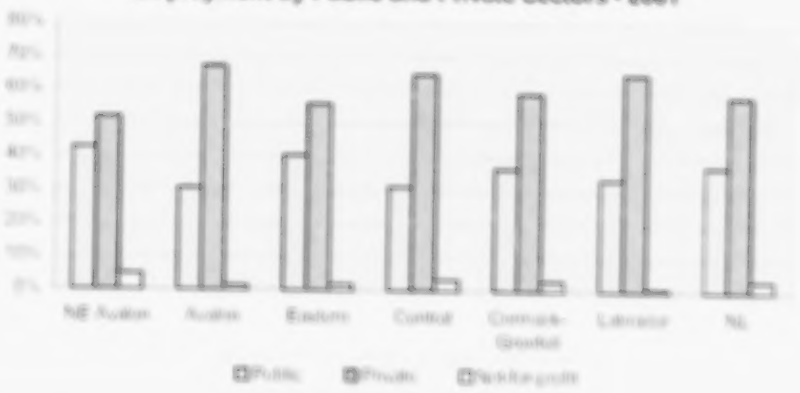
3.19 How many people are in the labour force?

In the year 2000, income tax returns showed that 267,830 individuals participated in labour force activities by either being employed or being unemployed and receiving EI benefits. The labour force in the province has decreased by 8% since 1991 – from 291,830 in 1990 to 267,830 in 2000. The number of men in the labour force has decreased by 11% while the number of women has decreased by 4%. By comparison, the labour force in Canada as a whole has grown by 14% – 11% for men and 17% for women.

3.20 Do we work in the private sector or in the public sector?

In 2001, the majority surveyed in all SHP regions reported they worked in the private sector, ranging from a low of 52% in the Northeast Avalon to a high of 67% in the Avalon region. The top four sectors in the province were: Health Care, which accounted for 14% of jobs in the province, followed by Retail Trade at 11%, Public Administration at 9% and Education at 8%.

Employment by Public and Private Sectors - 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Force Survey, 2001

In 2001 67% of employees in this province worked in the private sector, up from 60% in 1976. The percentage working in the private sector in Canada has been consistently higher with 78% in 2001 compared to 73% in 1976. This province has consistently since 1976 had a lower proportion of employees working in the private sector than all other provinces, which in 2001 ranged from 69% in Saskatchewan to 82% in Ontario.

3.21 What jobs do we have?

A 2001 survey showed that the largest occupational category was "Occupations unique to forestry operations, mining, oil and gas extraction, and fishing, excluding labourers."

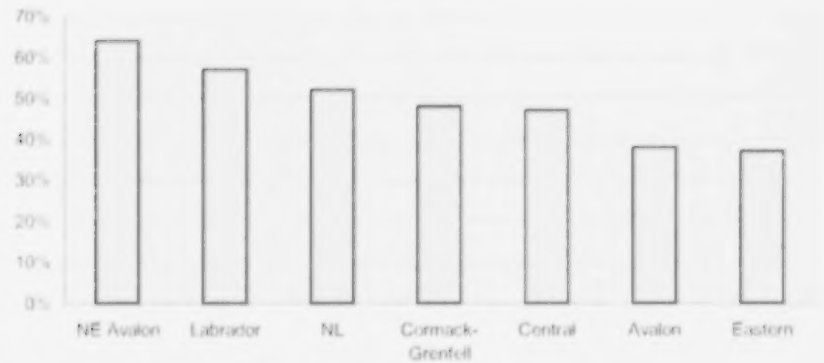
This category accounted for only 7% of jobs in the province. Within the four top sectors, however, certain occupational categories predominate.

Health:		
Childcare and home support workers	27%	
Technical and related occupations	21%	
Nurse supervisors and registered nurses		15%
Retail Trade:		
Cashiers	25%	
Retail salespersons and sales clerks	22%	
Managers	20%	
Public Administration:		
Judges, lawyers, psychologists, social workers, ministers	28%	
Clerical occupations		11%
Administrative and regulatory occupations	10%	
Educational Services:		
Teachers and professors	52%	
Childcare and home support workers	17%	

3.22 How many of us are employed full-year?

About 52% of the people in the labour market worked all year in 2001. Another 43% worked for part of the year and the remaining 5% did not find work at all. The Northeast Avalon and Labrador SSP Regions fared the best in terms of full year employment with 64% and 57% of their labour force working all year. The lowest was the Eastern SSP Region where only 37% found work all year.

Percent of Labour Force Employed All Year - 2001
SSP Regions

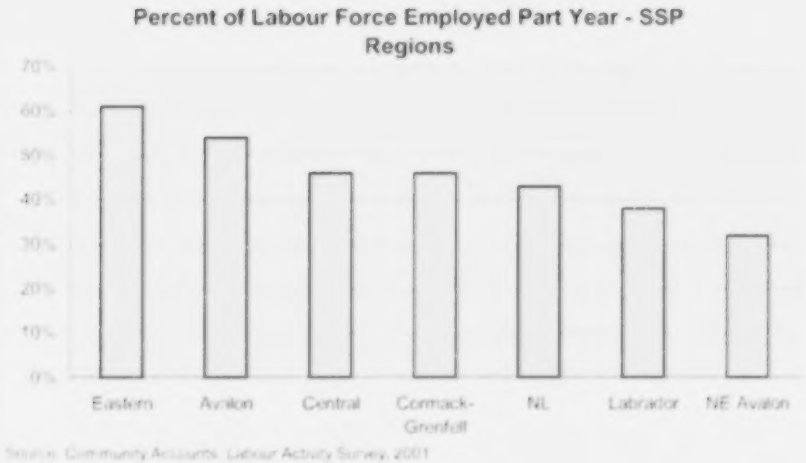


Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.23 What is the likelihood of being unemployed during the year?

While participation rates are higher, unemployment rates are much lower than is reported in the media. The average monthly unemployment rate in 2001 was 16%.

About 43% of people in the labour market worked for only part of the year in 2001. Within the SSP regions, the Eastern region had the highest percentage of its labour force employed for only part of the year while Northeast Avalon had the lowest percentage. Five percent of the people in our labour force who sought work could not find any during the year.

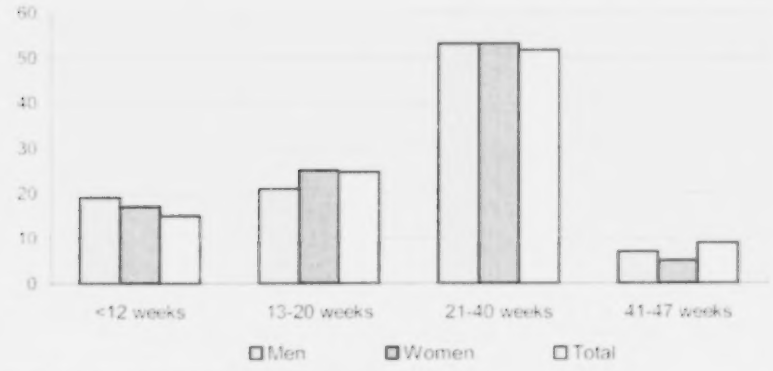


Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.24 How many weeks are part-year workers employed?

Both men and women who worked for part of the year in 2001 were employed for about 25 weeks on average. Over 40% of those employed for part of the year worked 20 weeks or less while another 53% worked between 21 and 40 weeks.

Weeks Worked by People Employed Part Year - NL, 2001

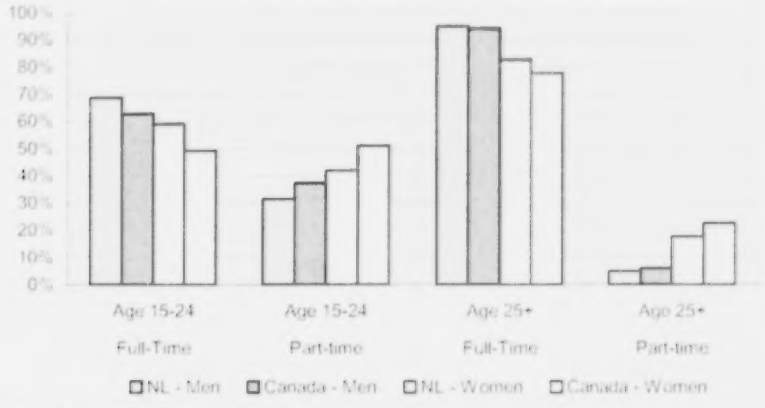


Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.25 How many of us work full-time?

Newfoundland and Labrador typically has more of its employment in full-time jobs (i.e. 30 hours per week or more) compared to Canada as a whole. In 2001, 89.2% of the employment in the province for 25 to 64 year-olds was full-time compared with 87.1% for Canada. Full-time employment has declined slightly from a high in 1976 of 94% in this province and 91% for Canada overall.

Full-time and Part-time Employment - 2001

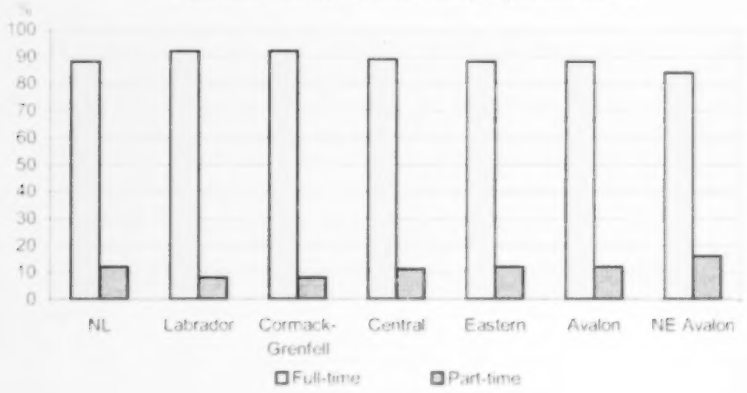


Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

In 2001, 94% of jobs were full-time for men aged 20 to 64, compared to 81% for women.

The highest percentage of part-time jobs was found in the Northeast Avalon SSP region where 16% of the jobs were less than 30 hours per week. Only 8% of the jobs in the Cormack-Grenfell and Labrador SSP regions were part-time.

Full-time and Part-time Employment, 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

3.26 What is the employment rate of youth?

In 2001, 88% of men and 78% of women aged 18 to 24 surveyed in the province said they had had some paid employment during the year.

In 2001, the monthly employment rate of 15 to 24 year old students in *full-time studies* in Newfoundland and Labrador ranged from a high of 20.6% in December to a low of 14.8% in September. More students in the country as a whole were employed throughout the year with monthly employment rates over 35% in all months in 2001.

In 2001, the monthly employment rate of 15 to 24 year old students in *part-time studies* in the province ranged from a high of 78.9% in April to a low of 46.7% in February. The Canadian employment rates for part-time students did not fluctuate as they did in this province. Many more part-time students in Canada as a whole were employed throughout the year than in this province. Monthly rates for Canada ranged between 65% and 73%.

3.27 Are we satisfied with our work?

In a 2001 survey, 84% said they were satisfied, with slightly more men than women being satisfied with their work.

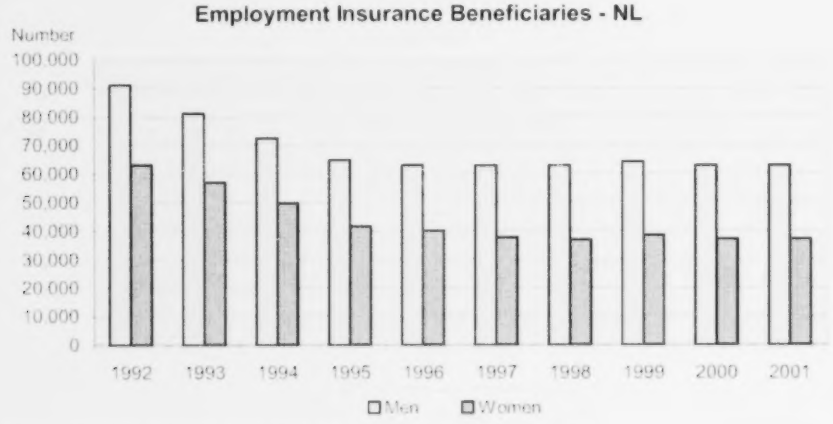
3.28 Are we dissatisfied with the hours of work we get each year?

Only about 4% of the workers employed in the province and surveyed in 2001 said they were dissatisfied because they did not work enough hours. The percentages varied

from a high of 9.4% in the Eastern SSP region to less than 1% in the Northeast Avalon region.

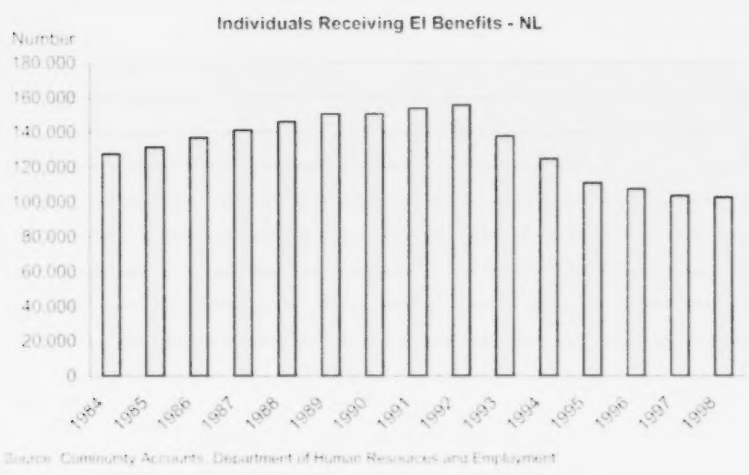
3.29 What about transfers from government?

The number of people who received Employment Insurance (EI) in this province dropped by about one third between 1992 and 1996, followed by a slight decrease of about 3% between 1996 and 2001. In 1992, 53% of the total labour force -154,235 people - received EI while in 2000 there were 99,740, about 37% of the total labour force. In 2001 there were 99,725 people in this province who received EI.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

The number of people who cited home residence as Newfoundland and Labrador and reported EI Benefits on their tax returns peaked in 1992, and has declined since that time. In 1998 about 19% fewer taxfilers from this province reported EI benefits than in 1984.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

The number of people receiving Social Assistance at some point during the year has dropped by 30%, from 101,105 in 1992 to 70,885 in 2001.

The number of people receiving Old Age Security (OAS) and/or Canada Pension Plan (CPP) payments is increasing as the population ages. The number receiving the combined OAS and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) increased 55% between 1990 and 2000 and for CPP increased by 65%. In 1996, 11.0% of the total population in the province received OAS and/or GIS and 12.3% received CPP compared to Canada as a whole at 12.1% and 13.5% respectively.

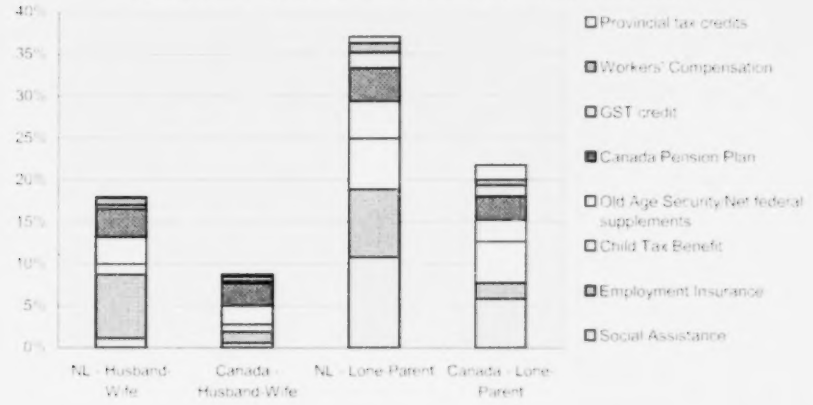
Two-thirds of all seniors who received the OAS in October 2002 in this province also received the GIS, the supplement provided to seniors with low incomes. This province had the highest percentage of seniors in the country that received the GIS, the percentage for the country as a whole being about 35%.

3.30 How self-reliant are we in terms of income?

People in this province get a smaller portion of their personal incomes from earnings and a greater proportion from government transfers than people in the rest of Canada. In 2000 about 78% of our personal incomes came from earnings compared to 77% in 1994.

Husband and wife families are the most self-reliant in both this province and the country. Lone parent families in this province have not become more self-reliant since 1995 as was the case for Canada. Both family types in this province are considerably more reliant on transfers, particularly on EI, than are families in Canada as a whole.

Transfers as Percent of Total Income by Family Type, 2000



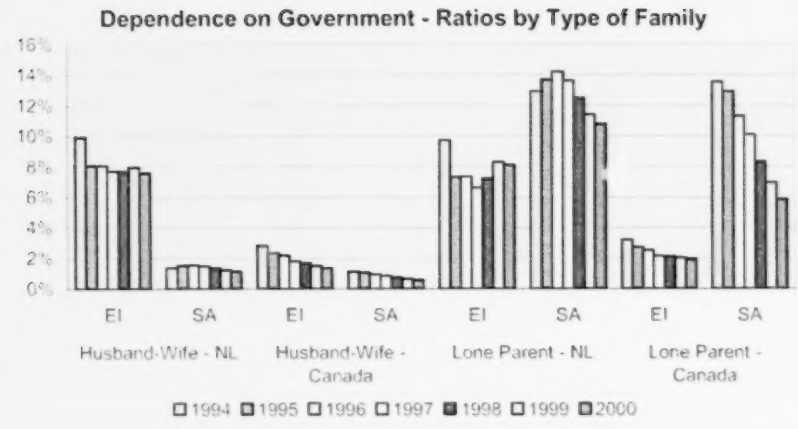
Source: Community Accounts, Small Area and Administrative Data Division, Statistics Canada

In 2000 lone parent families, primarily led by women, received about 38% of their income from government transfers - almost 20% from the combination of Employment Insurance (8.2%) and Social Assistance (10.9%). The situation has improved slightly since 1994 when about 40% of their personal incomes came from government transfers.

Single-parent families in Canada are more self-reliant in terms of income, receiving about 22% from government transfers in 2000 compared to about 30% in 1994.

In 2000 husband and wife families relied less on government transfers than did single-parent families, receiving about 18% of their personal incomes from government transfers – about 9% from the combination of Social Assistance (1.1%) and Employment Insurance (7.6%). This is a very slight improvement since 1994 when they received about 20% from government transfers.

Husband and wife families in this province continue to be less self-reliant in terms of income than similar families in Canada, who in 2000 received about 9% of personal income from government transfers (compared to 11% in 1994).



Source: Community Accounts, Small Area and Administrative Data Division, Statistics Canada

Many people who work either full-time or part-time are eligible for a supplement from Social Assistance because of low earnings or above average needs. Although many who would be eligible to receive Social Assistance do not seek it, each month there is an average of about 1400 people, approximately 70% of them women, who receive this supplement. In 2001, about 3800 different individuals and families, some 2% of the total labour force, received these supplements.

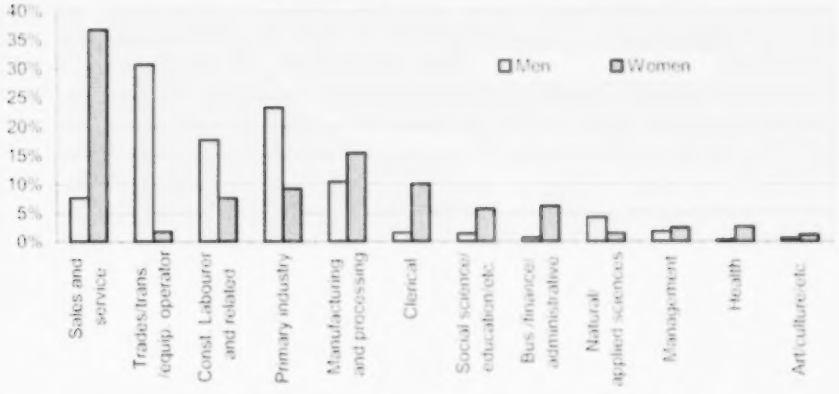
3.31 Who receives EI?

For the past seven years about 78% of those who received EI were aged 25-54 – the prime labour force ages.

The proportion of the prime labour force receiving EI is somewhat higher than in the early 1990s because youth aged 15-24 are now less reliant on EI.

Men have been more likely than women to collect EI. In 1992, 59% of EI beneficiaries were men. This had increased to 63% by 1998 and remains at that level in 2001. About 37% of women who received EI in 2001 had previously worked in the Sales and Service occupations compared to only 8% of men while about 30% of men had worked in the Trades, Transport and Equipment Operator sector compared to only 2% of women.

Employment Insurance Beneficiaries by Occupation and Gender, Newfoundland and Labrador, 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Human Resources Development Canada

3.32 How many of those aged 25-54, receive EI?

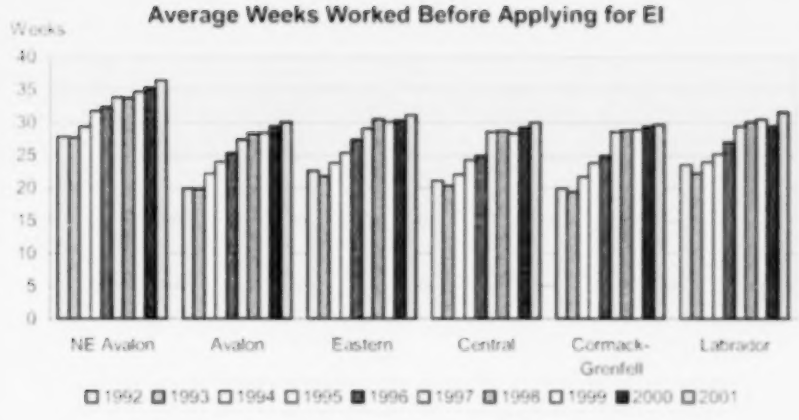
In both 1996 and 2001, one quarter of the women in the province aged 25-54, received EI.

Thirty-nine percent of men in the province aged 25-54 received EI in 1996. In 2001, there was a slight increase to 42%.

3.33 How many weeks do EI claimants work?

EI claimants worked on average 40% more weeks in 2001 than in 1992, an average of 31.5 weeks, compared to 22.5 weeks.

The trend to EI claimants working more has been consistent throughout the province. The Northeast Avalon has been consistently higher.



Source: Community Accounts, Human Resources Development Canada

All age groups have followed the same trend although individuals aged 25-34 have had a slightly higher increase compared to other age groups since 1997.

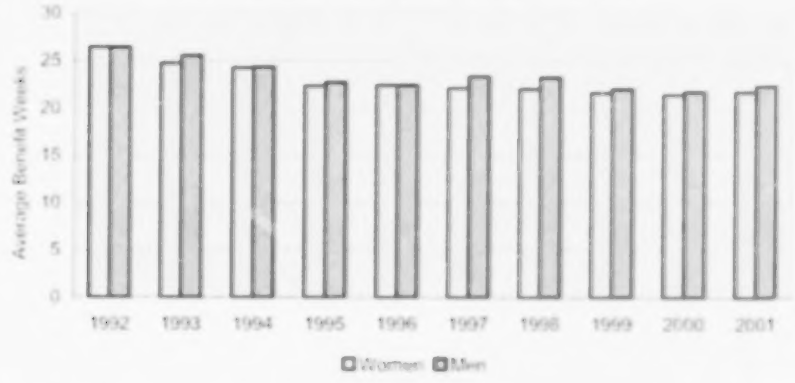
Men and women EI claimants each had an increase of about 20% in the number of weeks worked between 1992 and 1996. Since that time the number of weeks worked by women has increased only slightly by 3.6% to 29 weeks while the number of weeks worked by men has increased by 24% to 33 weeks.

Source: Community Accounts, Human Resources Development Canada

3.34 How many weeks do claimants collect EI?

Newfoundlanders and Labradorians are collecting EI for shorter periods. The average number of EI benefit weeks paid has decreased by 16% from 26.4 weeks in 1992 to 22.1 weeks in 2001. Men and women received similar average numbers of EI benefit weeks from 1992 to 2001.

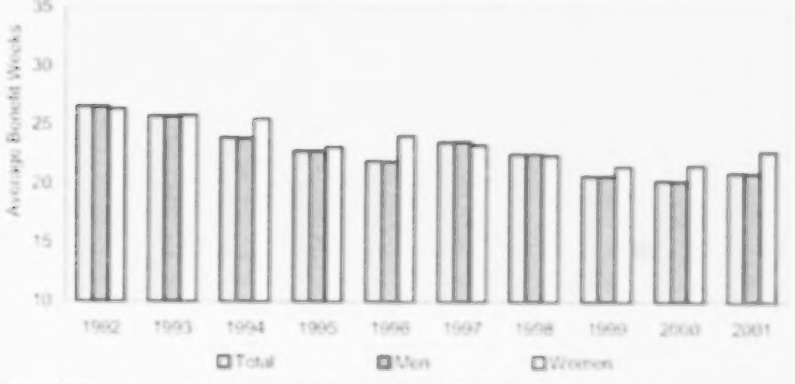
Average Weeks of EI Benefit Payments - NL



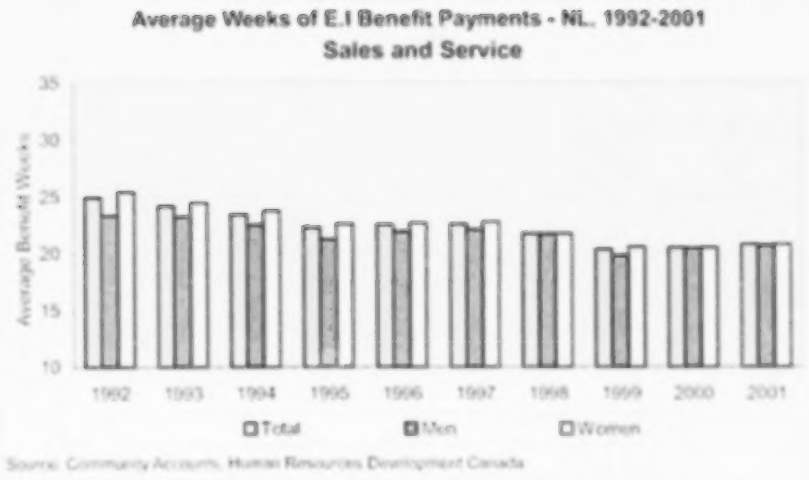
Source: Community Accounts, Human Resources Development Canada

These trends are consistent in the two sectors below - Trades, Transport and Equipment Operator, and Sales and Service - the predominant employment sectors of male and female EI claimants respectively.

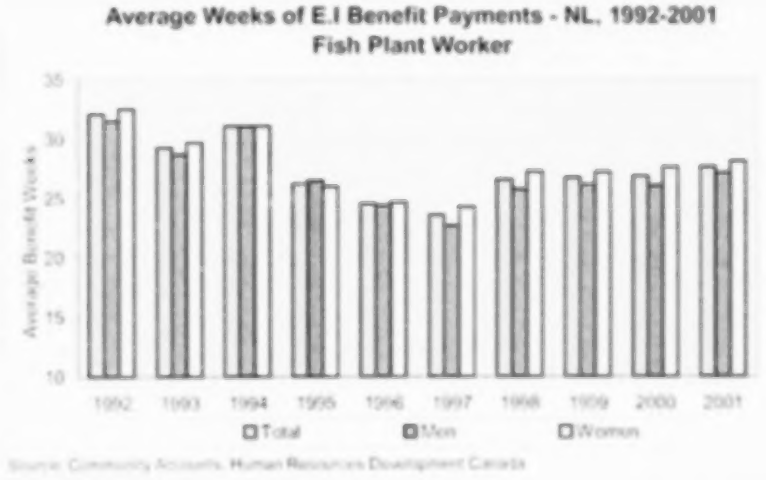
Average Weeks of E.I Benefit Payments - NL, 1992-2001
Trades, Transport and Equipment

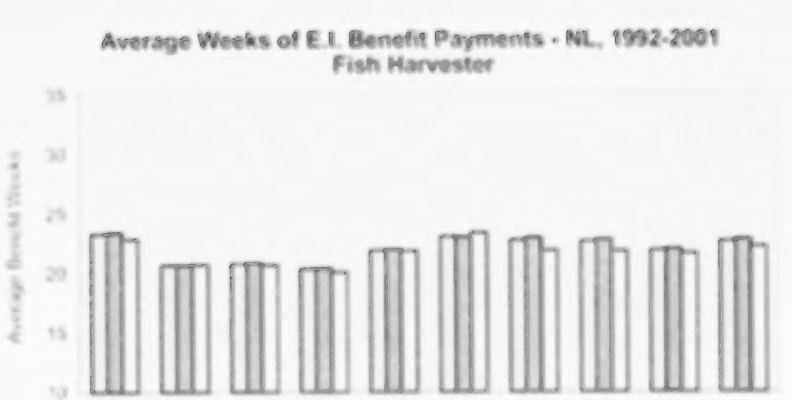


Source: Community Accounts, Human Resources Development Canada

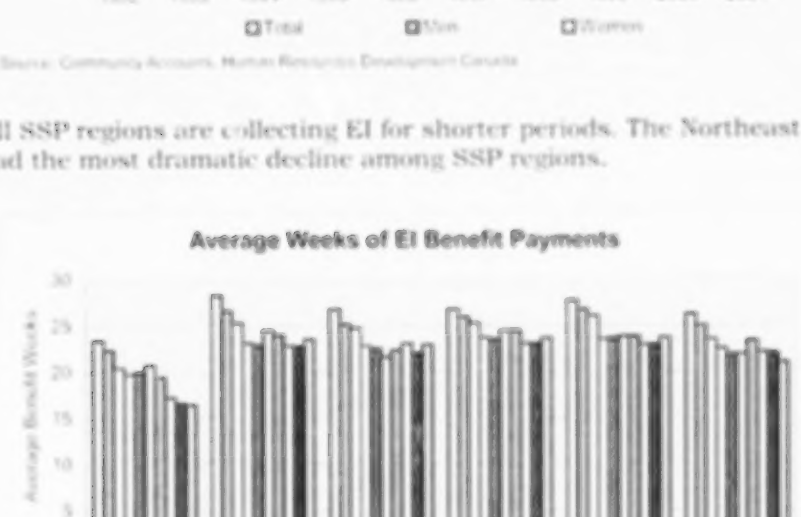


The picture looks somewhat different for the Fish Processing and Fish Harvesting sectors as shown in the two charts below.





People in all SSP regions are collecting EI for shorter periods. The Northeast Avalon area has had the most dramatic decline among SSP regions.



This trend has been similar for all age groups although individuals aged 24 or less traditionally receive slightly fewer benefit weeks.

3.35 What is the Average Weekly Benefit Rate on EI?

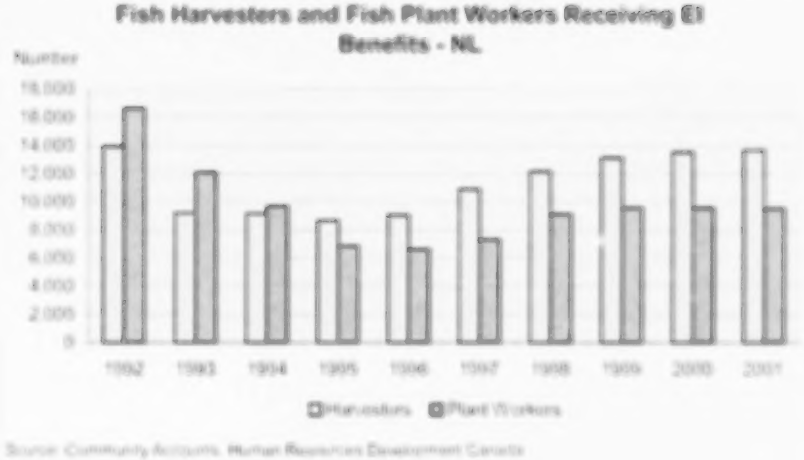
The average weekly benefit rate has risen by about 10% since 1992 - from $255 to $280 per week in 2001. Adjusted for inflation however, the average weekly benefit rate in 2001 was $245, an actual decrease since 1992 of about 4%.

For men the average weekly benefit rate has risen by about 10% since 1992, from $295 to $325 per week in 2001. Adjusted for inflation however, the average weekly benefit rate in 2001 was $280, an actual decrease since 1992 of about 5%.

In the same period, female benefit rates have risen by about 11%, to $210 per week in 2001. Adjusted for inflation, the average weekly benefit rate in 2001 was $185, an actual decrease since 1992 of about 3%. The average rate for women in 2001 was only 65% of the average weekly benefit rate of men.

3.36 What about the fishery and EI?

The number of fish harvesters receiving EI in 2001 was 13,685, about the same as in 1992. The number of fish plant workers receiving EI in 2001was 9,510 - 43% lower than in 1992.



Source: Community Accounts, Human Resources Development Canada

For fishing claims the average weekly benefit rate has risen by about 12% since 1992, from $345 to $385 per week in 2001. Adjusted for inflation, the average weekly benefit rate in 2001 was $335, an actual decrease since 1992 of about 3%.

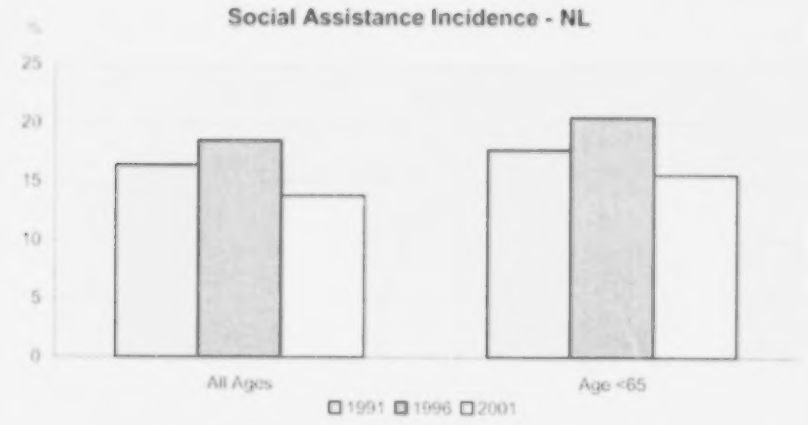
In the same period, benefit rates for fish plant workers have increased by about 2%, to $250 per week in 2001. Adjusted for inflation, the average weekly benefit rate in 2001 was $220, an actual decrease since 1992 of about 10%.

3.37 What proportion of the population under age 65 receives Social Assistance?

15.6% of the population under 65 years of age received Social Assistance in 2001, a decrease from 17.7% in 1991 and 20.3% in 1996.

13.8% of the total population received Social Assistance at some point during the year 2001.

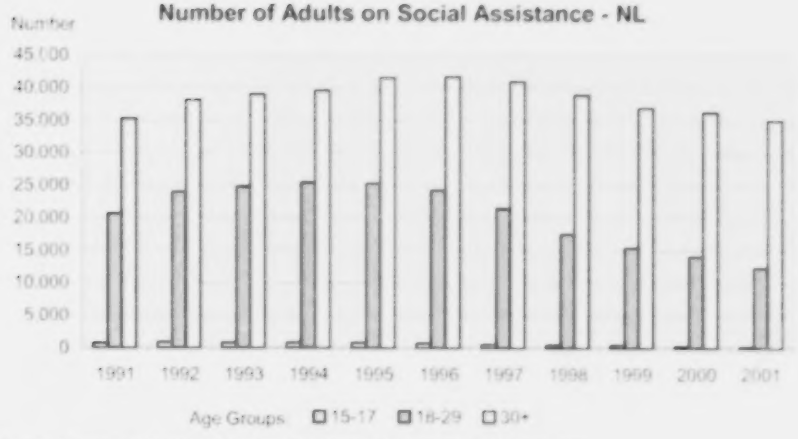
For the great majority of those over the age of 65, Old Age Security plus the Guaranteed Income Supplement replace Social Assistance as a source of income.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

3.38 What about youth aged 18-29 on Social Assistance?

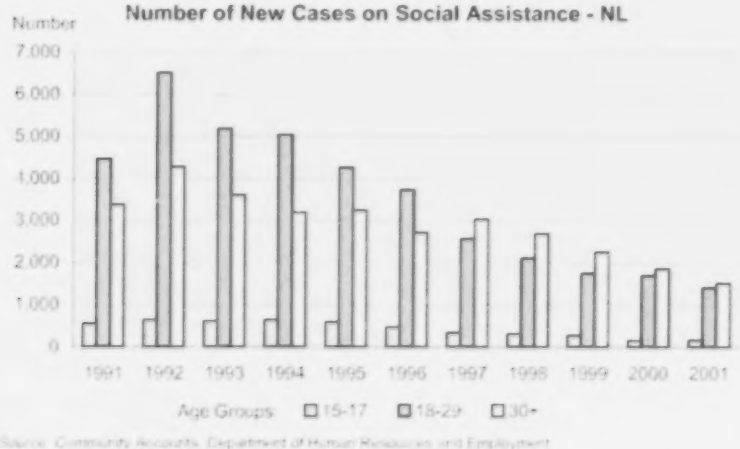
The number of youth aged 18-29 on Social Assistance has greatly declined - by 40% between 1991 and 2001, while the number of those aged 30 and above was approximately the same in 2001 as in 1991. The youth population as a whole declined by 31% and the population aged 30 and above increased by about 10% during the same time period.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

In 1991, about 53% of new Social Assistance cases were between 18 and 29 years old. By 2001 the percentage had declined to about 46%, only about 20% of them single parents. The majority was single persons with no dependants and women outnumber men by about 17%.

The decline in the number of new cases aged 18-29 has been most striking, some 68% between 1991 and 2001. The decline in the number of new cases aged 30 and above has been only slightly less dramatic – a decline of 56% from 1991 compared to 2001.



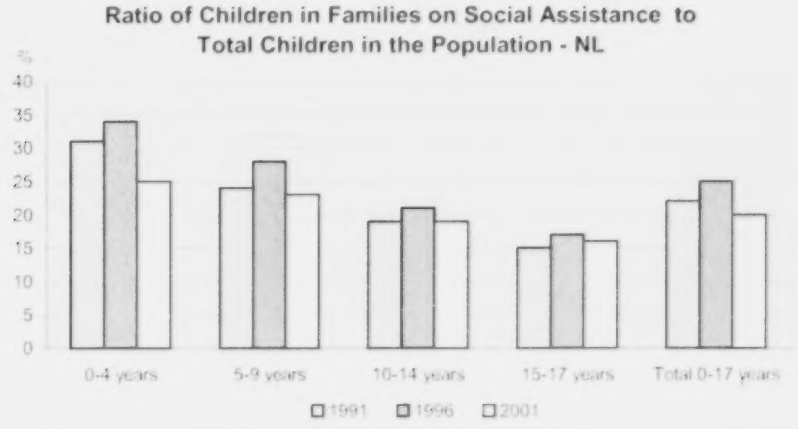
Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

Disability or illness was a factor for 11% of youth new entrants.

3.39 How many children are in families that receive Social Assistance at some point during the year?

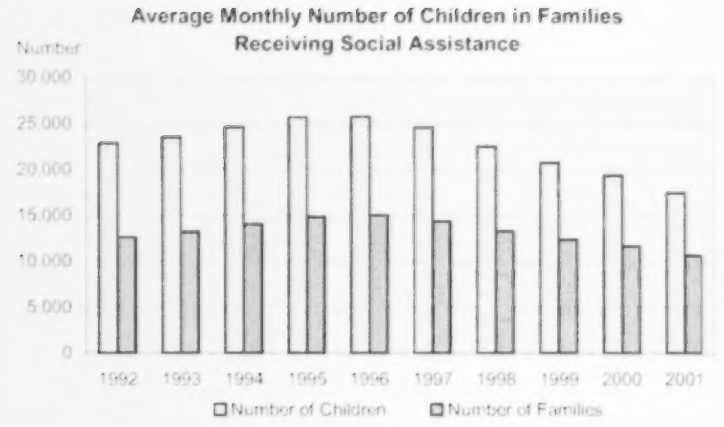
Between 1991 and 2001 the number of children aged 0-17 in the province dropped by 30%. The number of children in households receiving Social Assistance at some point during the year dropped 35.6%, from 35,700 to 23,000.

In 1991 almost one third of all children in the province aged 0-4 years of age were in families who received Social Assistance at some point during that year. By 2001, this proportion had dropped to 25%, some 6200 children.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

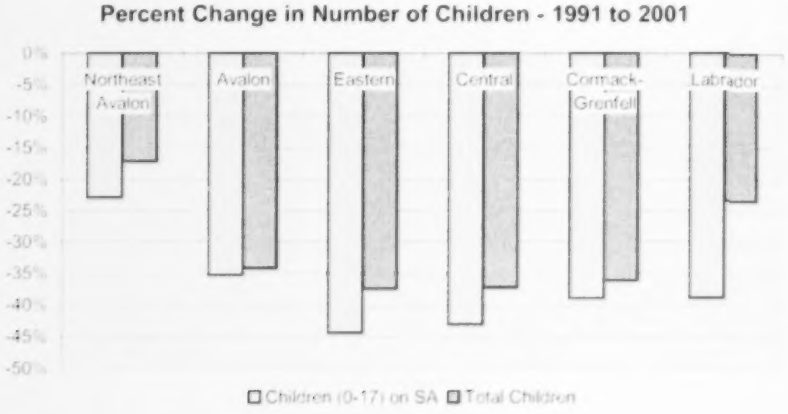
In an average month in 2001, there were about 17,500 children under the age of 17 in 10,600 families who received Social Assistance.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

The average number of children in families receiving Social Assistance dropped from 1.81 in 1992 to 1.65 in 2001, similar in size to all families in the province.

In all SSP regions, the percentage decline between 1991 and 2001 in the number of children aged 0-17 in families who received Social Assistance was **greater** than the percentage decline in the total number of children of that age.



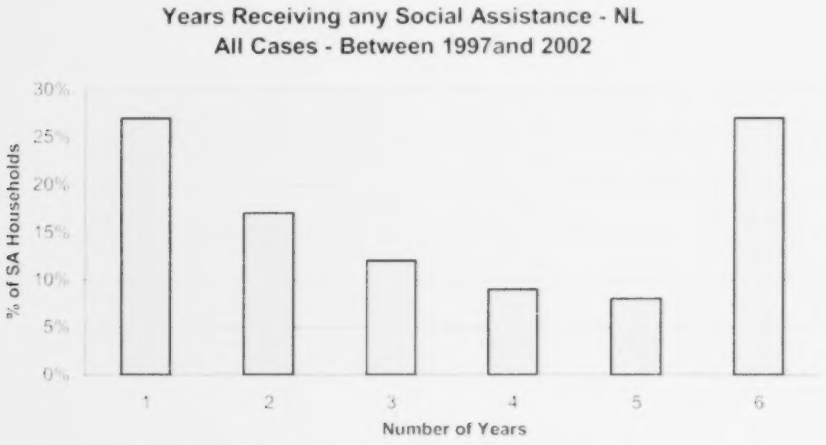
Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

3.40 How many adults with disabilities require Social Assistance?

Persons with disabilities - physical, mental, developmental and/or social - consistently make up about one third of all Social Assistance cases.

3.41 How many years do households receive any Social Assistance?

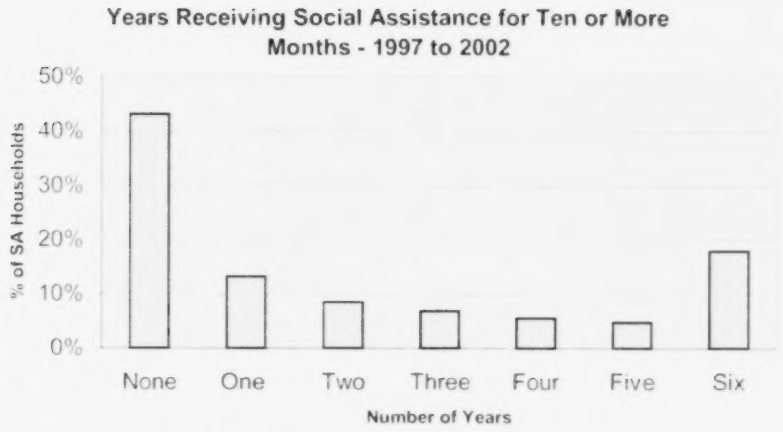
More than one quarter of all cases received Social Assistance in only 1 year in the period between 1997 and 2002. About 27% received Social Assistance in each of the six years.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

3.42 What proportion of households on Social Assistance receives assistance for six or more years?

Only about 18% received Social Assistance for ten or more months in each of the six years between 1997-2002. Almost half (43%) of households who received Social Assistance did so for less than 10 months in any of the years from 1997 to 2002.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Human Resources and Employment

In recent years, more people are leaving Social Assistance than entering. In 2001, about 2,700 people left and 2,400 people entered the program each month.

Vibrant, Distinctive and Supportive Communities

The Strategic Social Plan put forward a place-based development approach. By this it meant that our communities play a role in our social and economic well-being. Information on key aspects related to the economy, our involvement in electing representatives to govern, in voluntary agencies as volunteers, and other community activities are included in this section.

This report has a provincial focus, so rather than assessing each community individually, the key indicators related to the well-being of people within the context of their communities are provided on an overall provincial basis.

4.1 What has been the rate of employment growth?

Since 1998, employment growth in the province has averaged 2.9% annually, second highest of all other provinces and ahead of the national growth rate of 2.2%.

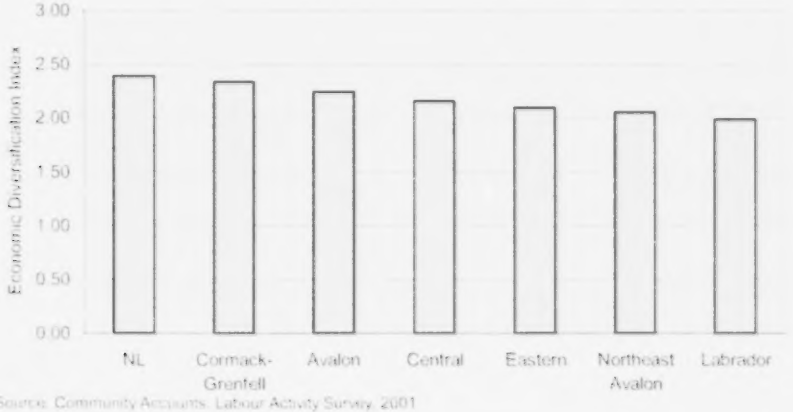
4.2 Is the number of businesses increasing?

The number of businesses registered in this province has been stable over the period 1999 to 2001. Variations over the three-year period have been small. The only increase in businesses registered was 1% in the Northeast Avalon SSP Region. Labrador and Avalon SSP Regions showed declines of 3%, Eastern 2% and Cormack-Grenfell 1% while Central Region showed no change.

4.3 How diverse is the economy?

When most jobs in an area are concentrated in a small number of industrial sectors, the diversification of the economy is lower than if the same number of jobs were spread out among a greater number of different industrial sectors.

Economic Diversification - 2001

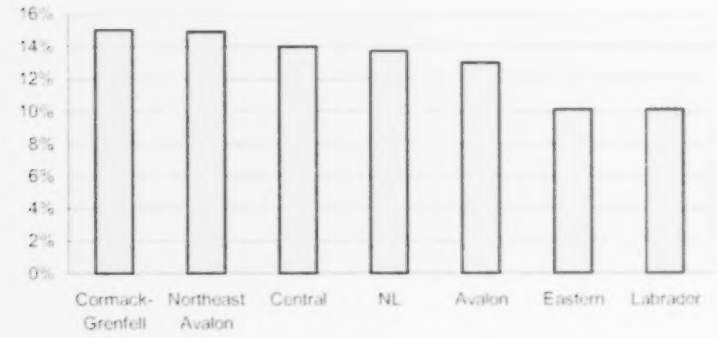


Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

As noted previously, about 42% of all jobs in the province are found within four industrial sectors - Health Care and Social Assistance, Retail Trade, Public Administration, and Educational Services. Labrador, which is the least diversified SSP Region, has 51% of jobs clustered within four sectors – 21% in the Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction sector alone.

The Health Care and Social Assistance sector accounted for at least 10% of all jobs in all SSP regions.

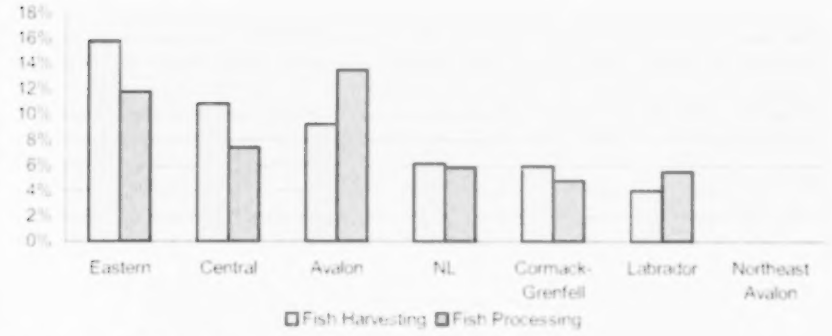
Percentage of Jobs in the Health Care and Social Assistance Sector - 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

In the Eastern, Avalon and Central SSP regions, Fish Harvesting and Fish Processing were among the top four sectors.

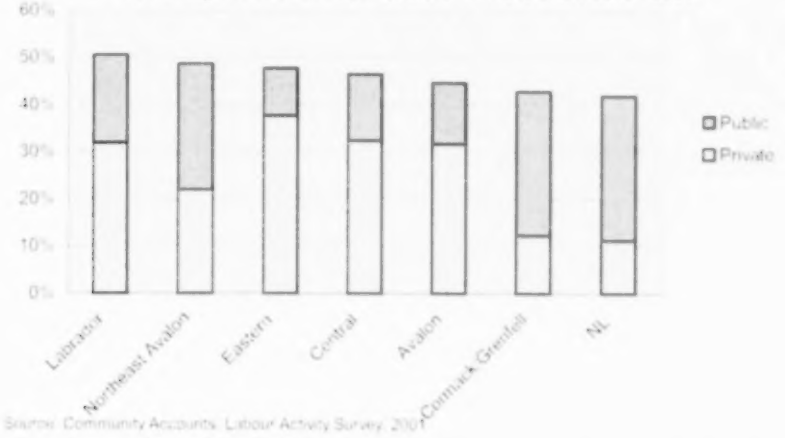
Percentage of Jobs in the Fish Harvesting and Fish Processing Sectors - 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

In total, more people work in the private sector than in the public sector in all SSP regions. However if we look at the top four sectors in each region, we clearly see the importance of the public sector in the overall job picture.

Percentage of Jobs in Top 4 Sectors - Private and Public - 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

4.4 What are the rates of domestic and external sales growth?

Real retail sales (in millions of 1997 dollars) have grown in nine of the last 13 years, with an average annual growth of 1.6%.

Growth in retail sales between 1996 and 2001 was the second strongest among all provinces (behind Alberta) and outpaced national growth.

Source: Provincial Economic Accounts, Statistics Canada

Wholesale trade has also benefited from the growth in retail trade, in addition to increased housing starts and a flourishing oil industry, leading to average growth of 2.2% annually over the last 13 years.

Source: Provincial Economic Accounts, Statistics Canada

Similarly, exports have demonstrated real average growth of 2.7% annually over the last 13 years, mainly driven by newsprint, oil, and services, and since 1997, fishery.

Source: Provincial Economic Accounts, Statistics Canada

4.5 Do we vote?

The highest voter turnout in a provincial election was in 1971 when 86.3% voted. Since then between 70-84% of those eligible have voted. Since Confederation, the proportions voting in provincial elections have been consistently higher than in federal elections, averaging 72% compared to an average of 62% respectively. During the 1990s however, the percentage voting in federal elections was about 55% and in the federal election of 2000, this province had one of the lowest voter turnouts in the country at 57.1%.

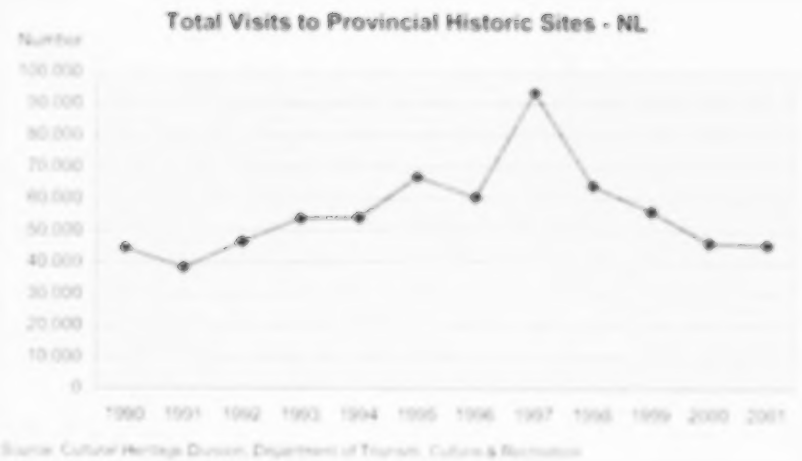
4.6 How many special cultural events are held in the province?

In 2002, there were 345 festivals and events held in the province.

4.7 How many people visit our historic sites annually? Our Arts and Culture Centres?

There was an average of 55,745 visitors annually to the Provincial Historical Sites in the province from 1990 to 2001. Visits peaked in 1997 at about 93,500 but by 2001 had dropped to 1990 levels of approximately 45,000 visitors annually.

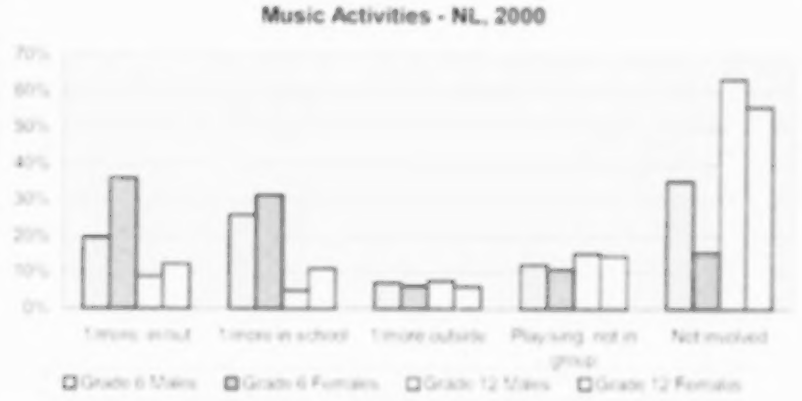
An average of 156,959 people attended performances at the provinces Arts and Culture Centres each year from 1996-97 to 2001-02. Attendance peaked in 1998-99 at 165,175 while attendance in 2001-02 was 158,516.



Source: Cultural Heritage Division, Department of Tourism, Culture & Recreation

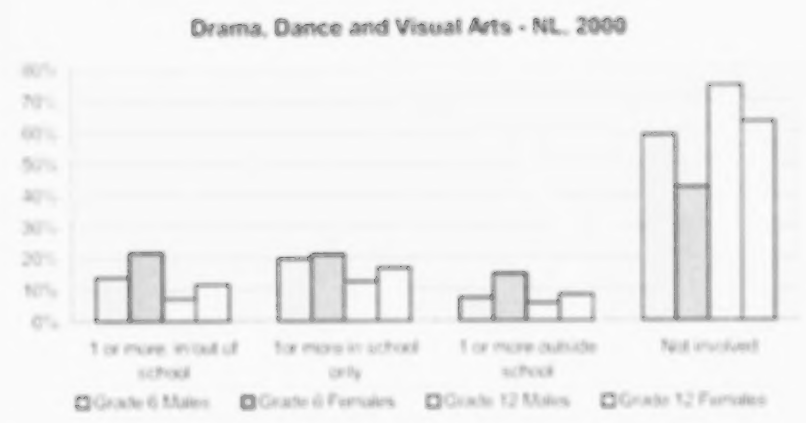
4.8 What proportion of students is involved in music and fine arts?

In 2000, 65% of boys and 84% of girls in Grade 6 said they were involved in music activities. In Grade 12, only 44% of girls and 37% of boys reported being involved.



Source: Department of Education, Student Activity Survey, 2000

Involvement in drama, dance and visual arts activities is less common than involvement in music for both boys and girls. More girls participate in drama, dance and visual arts at Grade 6 and Grade 12 - 58% and 37% respectively, compared to 41% of boys at Grade 6 and one quarter by Grade 12.



Source: Department of Education, Student Activity Survey, 2000

4.9 How much music do we produce in the province?

Between 1995 and 1999, there were 330 musical releases in Newfoundland and Labrador, an average of 66 per year. About 63% of these releases are traditional/Celtic music and Newfoundland and Labrador country music. The remaining 37% of the releases are primarily pop/rock, gospel, country, classical and blues/jazz music.

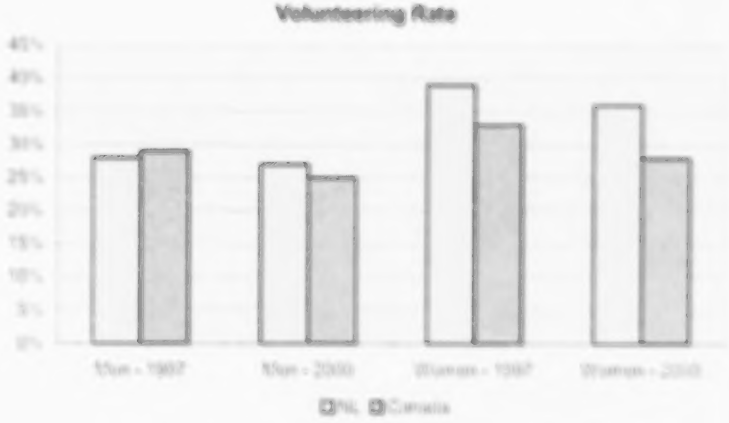
4.10 Where are our voluntary organizations?

There are more than 4000 voluntary organizations in the province. The Northeast Avalon is the region with the highest population, and has the most organizations. Labrador has the fewest but also has the lowest population of the SSP regions.

Source: Community Services Council (www.envision.ca, Feb. 2003)

4.11 How much do we formally volunteer?

Men aged 15 and over volunteered through a group or organization at about the same rate as other Canadians in 2000, about 27%, compared to 36% of women in the province and 28% of women nationally. There was a slight decrease in the rates of volunteering between 1997 and 2000, while the average numbers of hours spent volunteering increased.



Source: Statistics Canada, 1997 and 2000 National Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating

The proportion of those in this province who volunteer is consistently higher for age groups 15-24 and 25-34 than is the case for Canada as a whole.

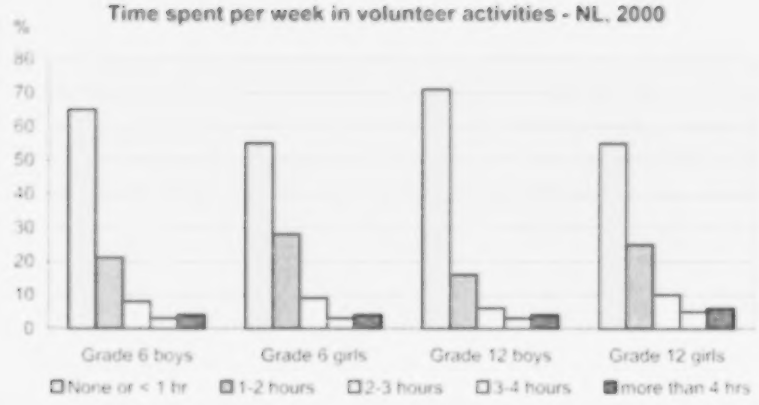
The number of hours that men volunteer in this province is also higher than for Canadian men and higher than for women in this province.

Source: Statistics Canada, 1997 and 2000 National Surveys of Giving, Volunteering and Participating

In 2001, 21% of adults aged 18 to 64 in this province reported they are members of a volunteer organization. 39% of this group did work for one or more organizations during 2001, about one third of them putting in five or more hours of work per week. Almost three quarters volunteered throughout the year.

4.12 What proportion of youth volunteer at least one hour per week?

Students in Grade 6 and Grade 12 are volunteering at somewhat similar rates to adults. About 45% of girls and 35% of boys in Grade 6 volunteer for 1 or more hours per week. In Grade 12 the proportion of girls volunteering for 1 or more hours per week remains the same while the proportion of boys has dropped slightly to about 29%.



Source: Department of Education, Student Activity Survey, 2000

4.13 How much informal care do we provide to others without being paid?

Fourteen percent of adults, aged 18 to 64 in this province reported providing care to others on a regular basis without pay in 2001. Over half of those reported caring for seniors, about 40% cared for children other than their own and 20% cared for disabled or sick individuals. In all cases the majority of the caregivers were women.

Thirteen percent of those aged 18 to 64 reported they volunteered in one or more places such as churches, schools or hospitals in 2001. Sixty percent of these people reported volunteering in churches, 43% in schools and about 14% in senior homes and another 13% in hospitals.

4.14 Do we do favours for others?

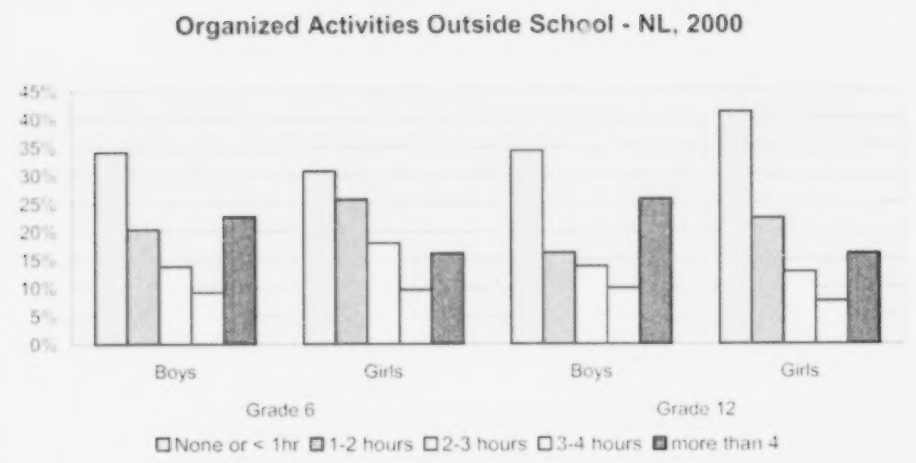
Ninety-two percent of those surveyed in the island portion of the province in 2001 reported that they do favours for others. The younger age groups did favours more often than the older age groups but there was no difference between men and women.

4.15 What proportion of students is involved in organized activities?

Students in 1998 and 2000 reported considerable involvement in organized activities outside of school such as sports, music, and clubs, etc.

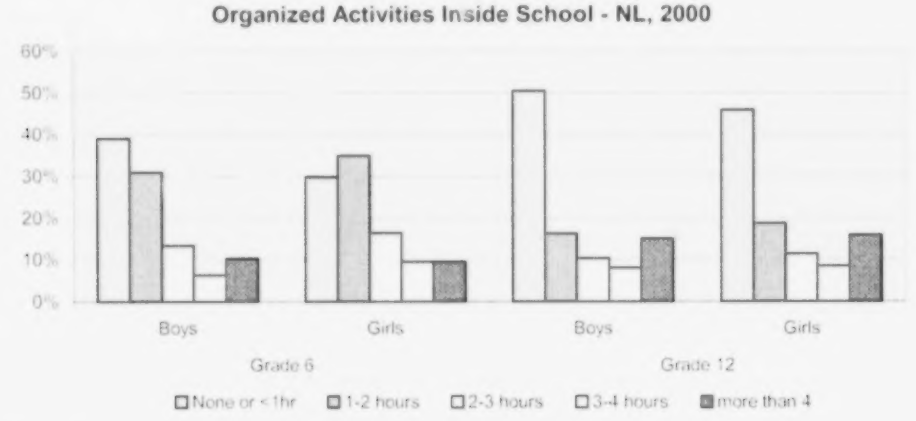
In 2000, seven out of every 10 Grade 6 girls and six out of every 10 Grade 12 girls reported they spent one or more hours per week while 16% of girls in both Grade 6 and Grade 12 reported spending more than 4 hours per week in organized activities outside school.

About 66% of Grade 6 and Grade 12 boys reported they spent one or more hours per week while about 25% reported spending more than 4 hours.



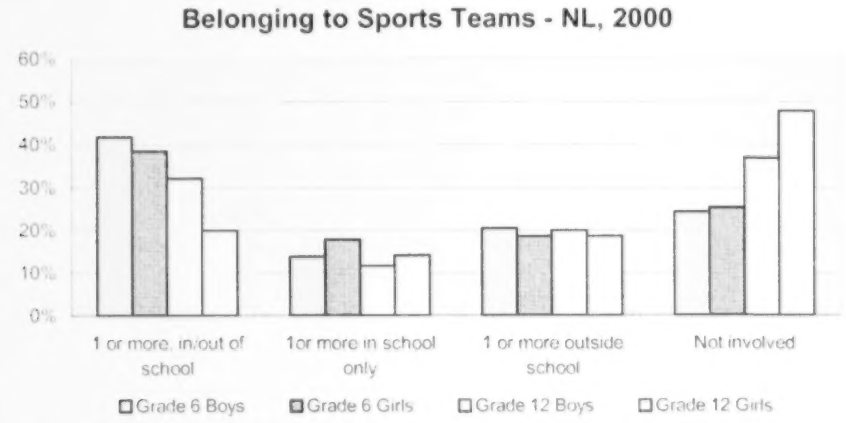
Source: Department of Education, Student Activity Survey, 2000

In 2000, students also reported considerable involvement in organized activities within the schools such as sports, band, choir, and clubs, etc. although the percentages were generally lower than for outside school for both Grade 6 and Grade 12. Indeed by Grade 12 half of boys and 46% of girls either had no involvement or less than one hour per week in these activities within the school.



Source: Department of Education, Student Activity Survey, 2000

4.16 What percentage of youth is engaged in team sports activities?
In Grade 6 about 75% of both boys and girls report they are involved in sports teams. In Grade 12, these percentages have dropped to about half of girls and 63% of boys involved in sports teams.



Source: Department of Education, Student Activity Survey, 2000

4.17 What proportion of adults (18+) is engaged in team sports activities?
In 2001, 20% of men but only 4% of women aged 18 and over surveyed from the island portion of the province were involved in team sports.

4.18 Do we have someone to call on when we need help?
In a 2002 survey, 99% said they knew at least two people they could call in the middle of the night if they needed help. 94% said they felt that strangers would assist them in a time of trouble.

4.19 How often do we visit our neighbours?
About half of those surveyed from the island portion of the province in 2001 reported that they visited neighbours five or more times in the past month, while two-thirds reported visiting neighbours 3 or more times in the past month.

The Avalon SSP region had the highest proportion - 64% visited neighbours five or more times in a month - and the Northeast Avalon the lowest at 40%, while Eastern Central and Cormack-Grenfell ranged between 55% and 60%.

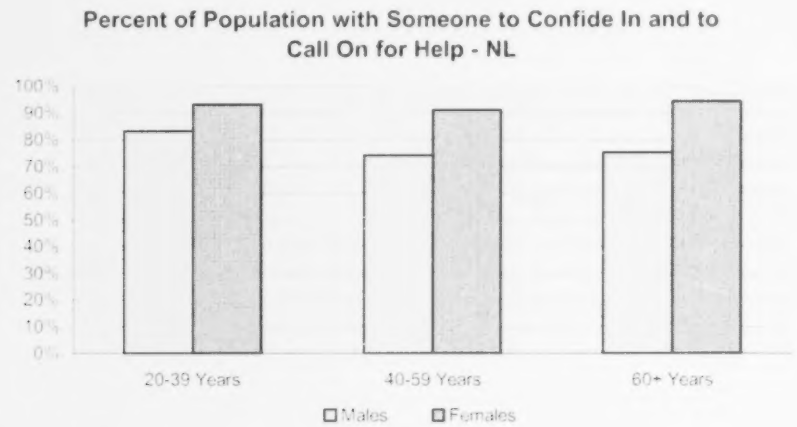
There was very little difference between the younger and older age groups but men tended to visit more often than women.

4.20 How many of us feel very lonely or remote from other people?

Although the majority of people surveyed in the island portion of the province in 2001 did not feel very lonely or remote from other people, the percentage that did is relatively high - 28% felt very lonely often or sometimes. One third of women felt lonely often or sometimes compared to 22% of men.

4.21 Do we have any one other than a spouse to talk to about private matters?

The majority of people surveyed from the island portion of the province in 2001 had someone to confide in and call on for help. More women (93%) than men (78%) reported having someone to call on for help. Younger men (83%) had someone to confide in or call on for help more often than older men (75%).



Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

Safe Communities

The safety of our population is an important aspect of well-being. Feeling safe and actually being safe are key aspects of community life.

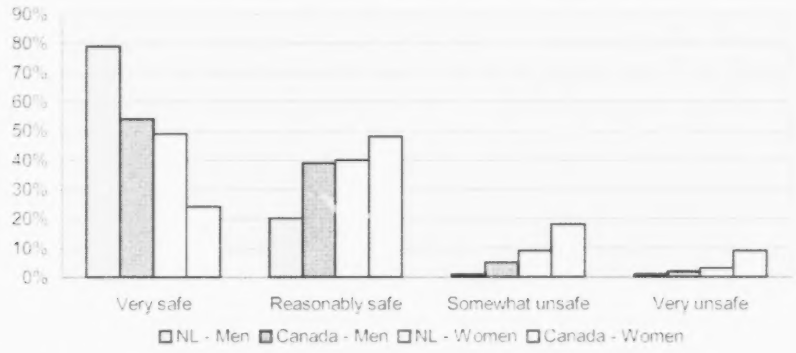
This section covers safety issues from two different aspects, that of the victims as well as those involved in criminal activity and includes

- Our perception of how safe we are, children who need protection, the types of crimes committed in the province, and the victims of these crimes.
- Information on youth and adult offenders who are committing these crimes. Unfortunately, exactly how many individual offenders there are could not be determined since only incidents and sentences are available rather than the numbers of individual offenders.

5.1 Do people in the province feel safe?

In 1999, about 80% of men, but only about half of women aged 15 and over, reported they felt very safe walking alone after dark. An additional 40% of women however felt reasonably safe. National proportions are somewhat lower with only 54% of men and 24% of women feeling very safe when walking alone in their neighbourhoods after dark

Feel Safe Walking Alone After Dark - 1999



Source: Statistics Canada, 1999 General Social Survey on Victimization

In 2002, 99% of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians felt safe at home and 83% felt safe at work. 86% felt that society has become more violent over the past 10 years; however only 40% felt their own community has become more violent.

5.2 What proportion of children live in healthy functioning families?

The National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth has been surveying certain families in this country to examine their progress over time in a number of areas. One area is how well the families are functioning.

In this province 93.2% of the families surveyed in 1994-95 were considered to be healthy, functioning families, increasing to 94.2% in 1996-97. The comparable Canadian percentages were 92.3% and 92.9%.

It should be noted, however, that while we have a slightly higher percentage of healthy functioning families than does Canada, we also have a higher percentage – by almost 10% - of families who while currently considered healthy are approaching the borderline between healthy and dysfunctional.

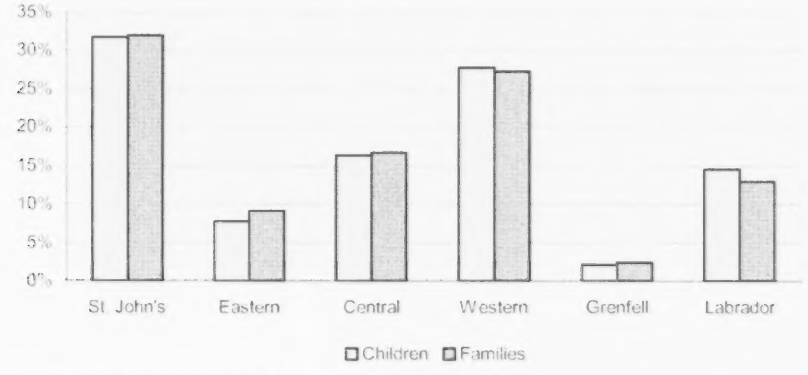
5.3 How many of our children are in need of protection?

In July 2002, there were 1,774 children in need of protection in 994 families. These families were small with 1.8 children per family on average.

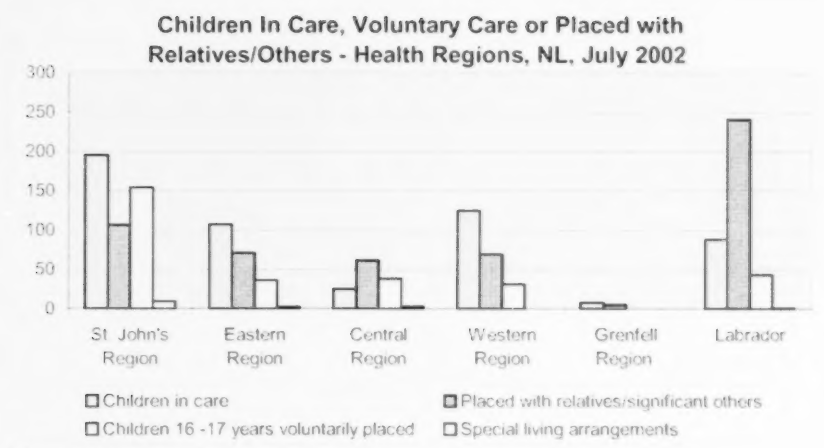
Of these children, 548 under the age of 16 were placed in foster care and an additional 553 were placed with relatives or significant others. A further 302 children aged 16 and 17 were voluntarily clients of the Children, Youth and Family Services Division, Department of Health and Community Services. Fifteen other children were receiving special living arrangements to meet their specific needs. In total, there were 1,418 children under 18 years of age in care and being cared for by others rather than their families. The remaining children were living at home with services being provided.

As might be expected, the St. John's Health region with the highest population of children also had the highest number of children receiving placement services. Not surprisingly, the Grenfell Health region, with the smallest population, had the lowest number of children in care. Labrador Health region, which has a much lower population, had the second highest number of children placed in alternative homes. Most of the children were placed with relatives or significant others in Labrador.

Children in Need of Protection by Health Region - NL
July 2002



Source: Child, Youth and Family Services



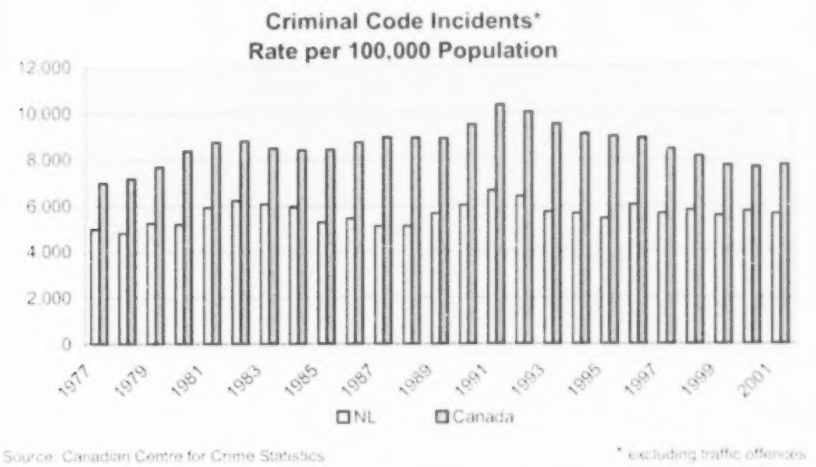
Source: Child, Youth and Family Services

5.4 Do students bully our children at school?

About 80% of Grade 6 and Grade 12 students in this province reported in 1998-99 and 2000-01 that school was a place where they felt safe from personal harm. About 40%-45% of students said, however, that students pick on each other all the time.

5.5 How many crimes are committed in the province?

The rate of criminal code incidents is considerably lower in this province than in the nation. In 2001, there were about 5,600 criminal code incidents (excluding traffic) reported to police per 100,000 population in the province, a decrease of 15% since 1991, compared with 7,700 nationally, a decrease of 25% since 1991.



Source: Canadian Centre for Crime Statistics

* excluding traffic offences

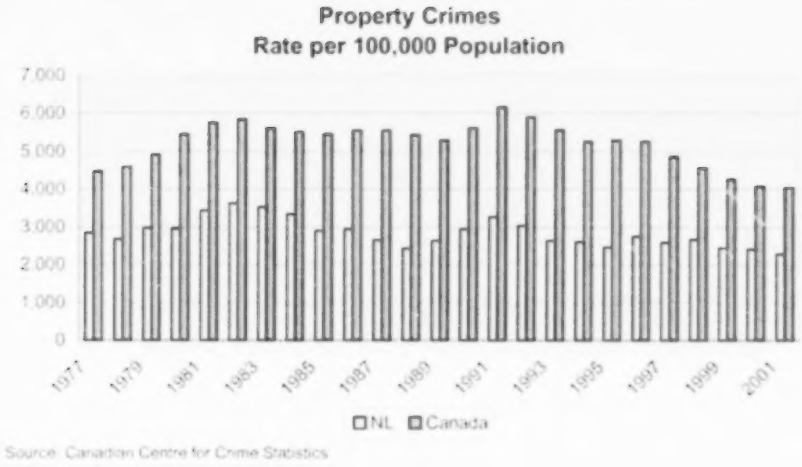
Victimization surveys reveal that only 30% of victimizations (excluding spousal assault and elder abuse) in 1999 were reported to police provincially and 37% nationally.

Victimization was lower for the province compared to the nation, about 142 compared to about 186 per 1,000 population. Provincially there was a difference between the rates for men and women, about 131 compared to about 153 per 1,000 population, but no difference nationally. Provincially and nationally there were great differences between the victimization rates of men and women for particular types of crime.

In 2000, 83% of all adults charged in the province with criminal code offences were men, similar to the Canadian proportion.

5.6 How many crimes are being committed against property?

In 2001, in this province the incidence of property crimes reported to police was 2,300 per 100,000, a decrease of 30% since 1991. This rate is much higher than the rate of violent crime. The most common type of crime in both the province and the country was "theft under $5,000" at about 1262 and 2143 per 100,000 population respectively. Breaking and entering was the second most common type of crime in both this province and in Canada as a whole at about 600 and about 909 per 100,000 population respectively.



Source: Canadian Centre for Crime Statistics

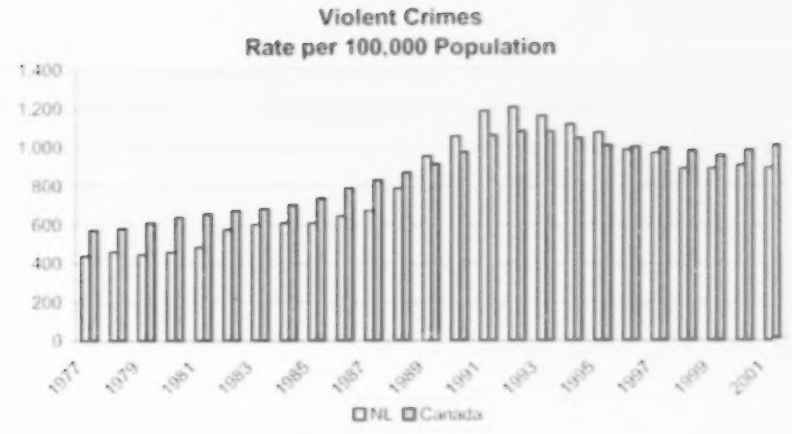
In 2001, motor vehicle theft was 361% higher nationally than in this province, 548 compared to 119 per 100,000 population.

Men were the primary victims of robbery in the province in 1999, at about 80% while the comparable national rate was 65%. Men and women were about equally the victims of theft of personal property both provincially and nationally.

Men are also the primary offenders, charged for 75% of property crimes in the year 2000, similar to the Canadian proportion of 78%.

5.7 How many violent crimes were committed?

Provincially, the incidence of violent crime has decreased by about 25% since 1991. Assaults were the most common type of violent crime in this province in 2001, at about 868 per 100,000 population, a slightly lower rate than Canada.



Source: Canadian Centre for Crime Statistics

In 1999, almost all victims of sexual assaults were female while 55% of other assaults were committed against men. Nationally, the victimization rates were similar with 81% of sexual assaults committed against women and 56% of other assaults against men.

Most sexual assaults are not reported. In 1999, survey data show that only 3% provincially and 8% nationally were reported to police. It is also estimated that in 1999, only 28% of violent victimizations were reported to police provincially.

In 2001, the province had a 39% higher incidence of sexual assaults reported to police compared to the nation, 110 and 79 per 100,000 respectively.

Men committed 85% of all violent crimes in this province in the year 2000, similar to the Canadian proportion.

5.8 How many traffic crimes were committed?

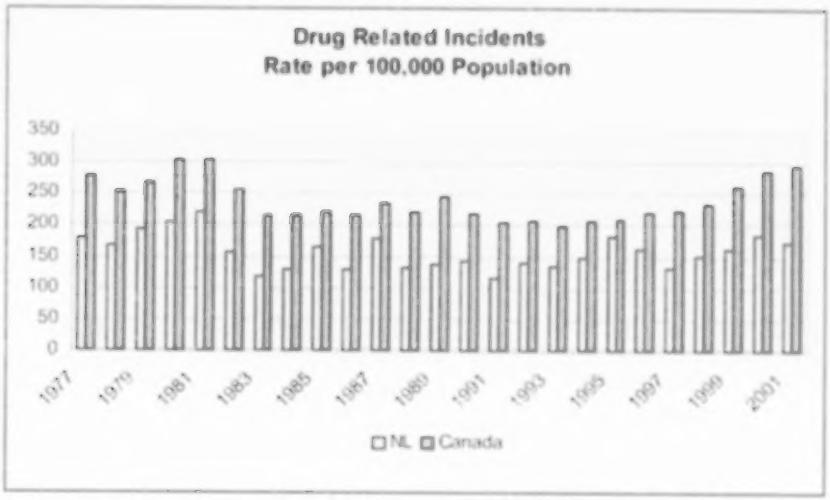
In this province in 2001, the incidence of traffic crimes reported to police was about 360 per 100,000 population, a decrease of 40% since 1991. The Canadian rate of 405 per 100,000 population had declined by 50% since 1991.

The most common traffic crime in this province is impaired operation, which also declined by about 43% since 1991 and in 2001 was at a rate of about 290 per 100,000 population. The Canadian rate of 290 per 100,000 population had declined by about 42% since 1991.

5.9 How many drug related crimes were committed?

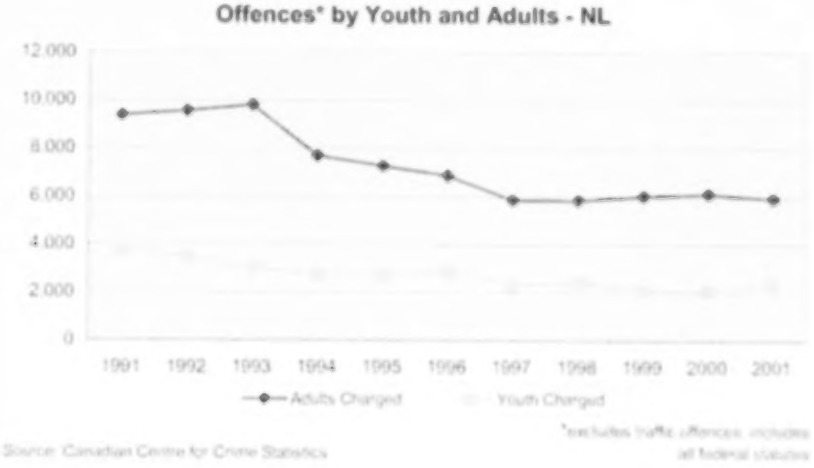
Drug crimes are not classified as criminal code incidents. The rate of drug crimes in this province in 2001 was about 170 per 100,000 population compared to Canada at about 295 per 100,000 population. 87.3% of drug offences were Cannabis offences, with about two-thirds for possession, and 30% for trafficking. About three out of four

drug offences in 2001 in Canada were Cannabis offences; about 78% of these were for possession, 16% for trafficking and 13% for production.



5.10 Who is committing these crimes?

Since 1991, between 70% and 80% of the offences in the province were committed by adults over 17 years of age. Offences, however, have been dropping, decreasing by 37% between 1991 and 2001. Offenses committed by youth 12 to 17 years of age decreased by about 38% over the same time period. During this time the total number of youth aged 12 to 17 in the province decreased by 27%.



5.11 What about adult offenders?

The number of inmates serving provincial sentences on any given day has declined from 393 in 1994-95 to 278 in 1999-00, a 29.3% drop. The number of inmates from all the Atlantic provinces serving federal sentences also decreased from 1,409 in 1994-95 to 1,193 in 1999-00, a 15.3% decline.

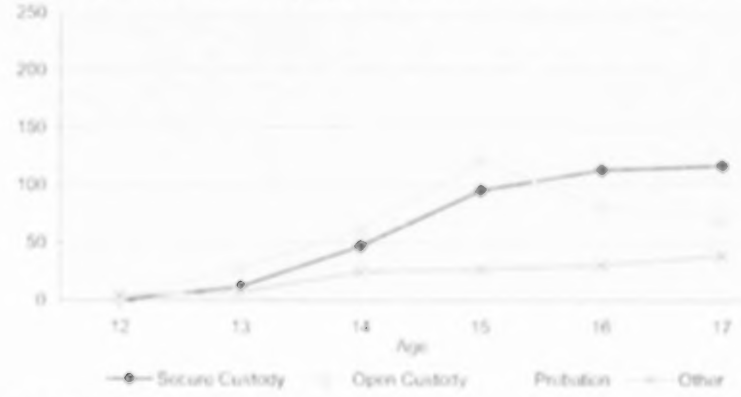
In 1998-99, 49% of those admitted to a provincial facility were less than 29 years old, up from 44% in 1997-98. About 68% percent were not married at the time of admission. Fifty-three percent were repeat offenders.

One-third of adult inmates sentenced to a facility in the province were ages 20-29 and a further one third between 30-39 in 1999-00. These proportions were similar to Canada as a whole.

5.12 What about youth offenders?

There were 1748 sentences handed out to youth in 1998/99. Since some offenders receive more than one sentence during the same year, this represents less than 4% of the youth in the province - less than 2% committed crimes that resulted in a custody sentence. Most sentences were given to older youth offenders; 74.2% of the youth sentenced were between 15 and 17 years of age.

Type of Sentence by Age of Youth Offender - NL, 1998/99



Source: Canadian Centre for Crime Statistics

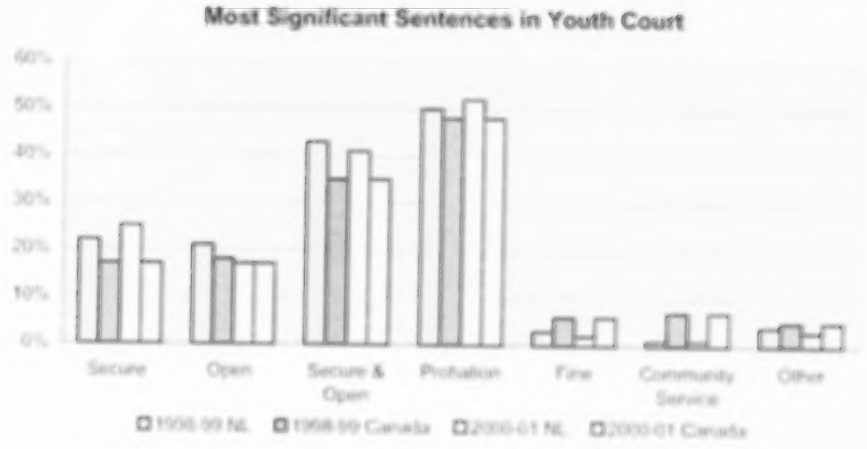
In 1998-99, 49% of youth committing crimes in this province had previously been offenders, compared to 42% in Canada. Young girls committed only 17% of offences - 34% of them had committed crimes previously compared to 52% of boys.

On any given day in 2000-01, 96 youth in this province were in custody (either secure custody, open custody or remand/temporary detention), about one-third fewer than on any given day in 1996-97, when there were 150 in custody.

In any given month in the year 2000-01, 858 youth in this province were on probation, about one-third fewer than in 1996-97, when there were 1283 youth on probation in any given month.

In 1999-2000, 38% of boys admitted to youth correctional centers in the province were first convicted of an offence at 13 years of age or younger and a further 22% at age 14.

Overall, Newfoundland and Labrador gave the heaviest sentences of all the provinces. In 2000-01, probation was the most significant sentence in 52% of all cases in the province. Forty-one percent of all cases in the province were sentenced to secure and open custody and 25% to secure custody compared to 35% and 17% respectively in Canada as a whole.



Source: Canadian Centre for Crime Statistics

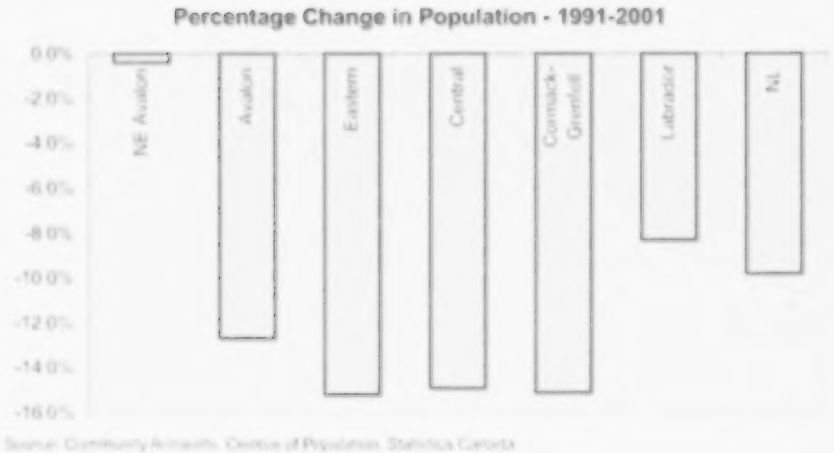
Sustainable Regions: Demographics

Without regional sustainability, our long-term well-being is in jeopardy. This section provides an overview of selected indicators related to sustainability from a demographic change perspective, because the declines and aging of our population over the past few years have implications for sustainability in the longer term.

6.1 How has our population been changing?

Since 1991, the province's population, as counted in the Census, has dropped by 9.8% from 568,475 to 512,930. The decreases in population are more pronounced in rural regions. The Northeast Avalon SSP region has dropped the least by less than 1% while the Eastern, Cormack-Grenfell and Central regions have dropped by approximately 15% each.

The decrease in the Newfoundland and Labrador population since 1996 was the highest in the country. The populations of the Yukon and Northwest Territories have decreased almost as much as this province. The populations of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Saskatchewan have shown modest decreases of about 1% or less.



Source: Community Accounts, Census of Population, Statistics Canada

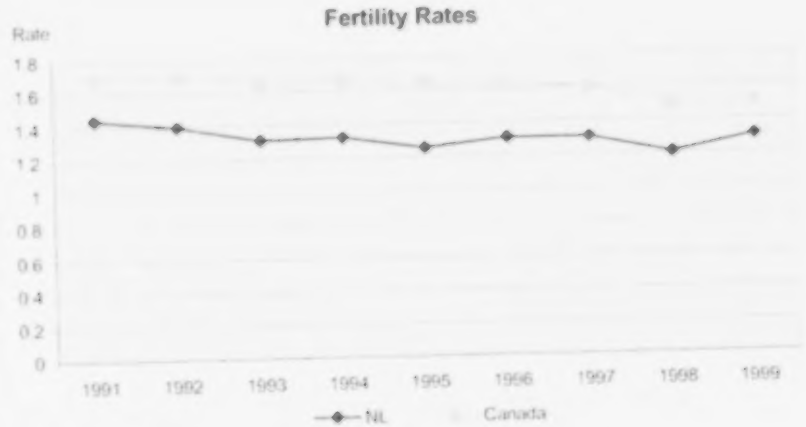
6.2 How many children are we having?

The number of births in the province has dropped by 62% from 12,746 in 1971-72 to 4,804 in 2000-01.

The net loss of 15 to 29 year old women from the province due to interprovincial migration in the past 15 years was about 23,000. Had they remained these young women would have had children born in the province; their loss resulted in fewer births.

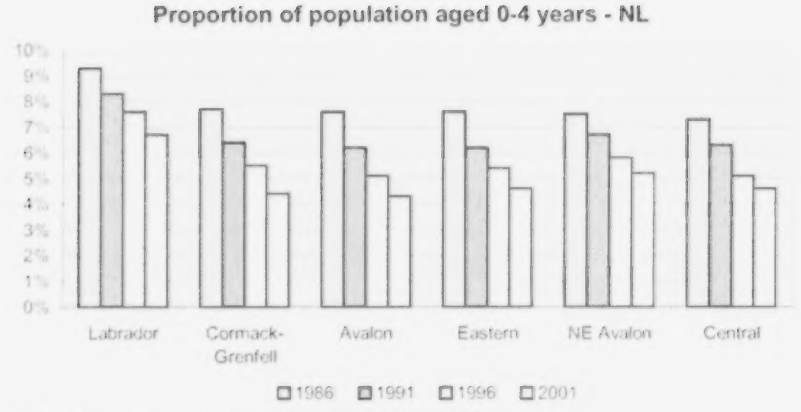
Low fertility rates in the province are also causing the number of births to drop. The fertility rate for the province in 1999 was 1.3 children, considerably lower than the 2.1 children each woman would need to have to replace the current population, and down from 1.4 in 1991. The fertility rate amongst 15-29 year-olds has shown the greatest decline.

The country's fertility rate is also low, falling from 1.7 in 1991 to 1.5 in 1999, although it has remained consistently higher than the province over the past decade.



Source: Statistics Canada

The proportion of the population that is under the age of five declined in all SSP regions between 1986 and 2001. Labrador SSP region showed the smallest decline; however even among northern and coastal communities the proportions under the age of five had declined considerably from 1986 levels.

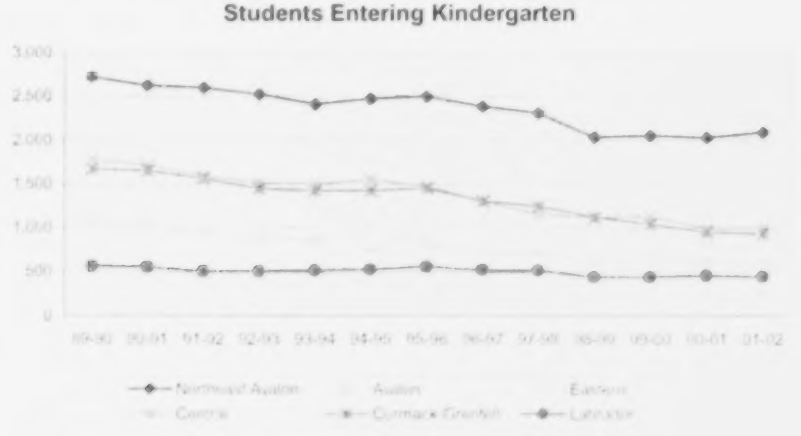


Source: Community Accounts, Census of Population, Statistics Canada

6.3 How many children entered kindergarten last year?

In the 2001-02 school year 35% (79 schools) of the total schools had less than 10 kindergarten students. These schools are primarily in rural areas with the percentage of schools with less than 10 kindergarten students reaching as high as 62% in the Labrador SSP region, 50% in Cormack-Grenfell and as low as 5% in the Northeast Avalon.

Since the 1989-1990 school year, the number of kindergarten students in the Northeast Avalon SSP region has declined by 23%, in Labrador by 21% and in the Avalon region by 48%.



Source: Community Accounts, Department of Education's K-12 School Profile System

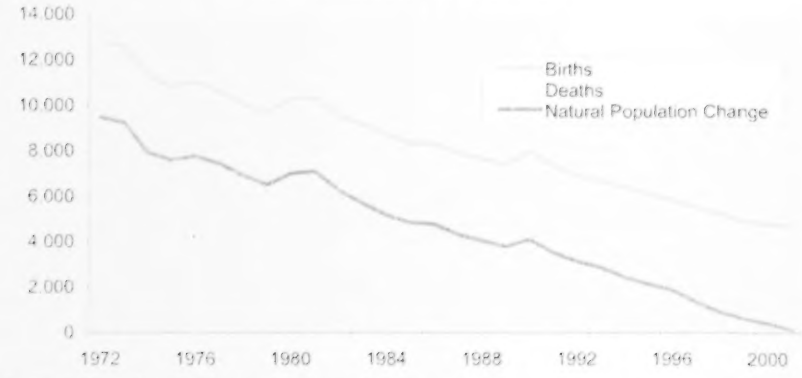
6.4 How many people are dying in the province?

The population of the province is aging and thus deaths have been increasing gradually over the past 30 years. There was a 31% increase in deaths between 1971-72 and 2000-01.

6.5 How are births and deaths affecting the population?

In 2000-2001, there were only 522 more births than deaths in the province. Since deaths are increasing and births are decreasing, within the next few years there will be more deaths than births and the population will be in decline.

Births, Deaths and Natural Population Change
Newfoundland and Labrador



Source: Statistics Canada, Demography Division. Information on a census year basis.

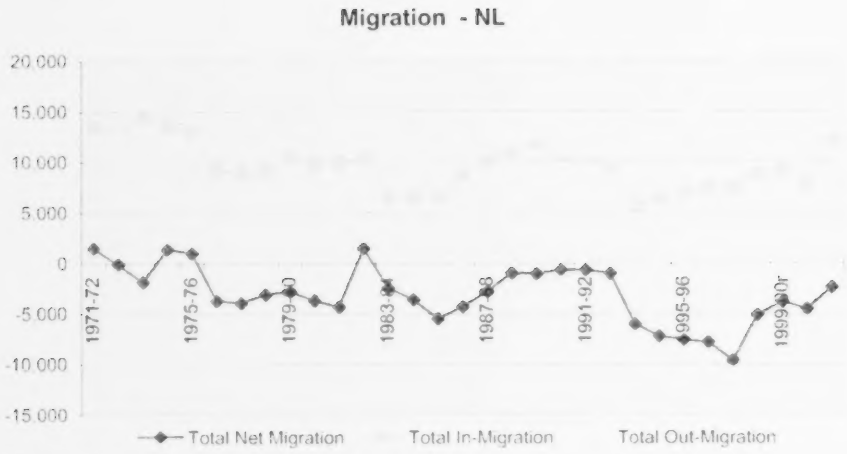
6.6 How many people have left the province?

In the early 1970s, slightly more people were entering the province than leaving. Since that time more people have left than have entered the province.

Between 1976-77 and 2001-02, approximately 330,700 people left the province while only 232,000 entered - a loss of approximately 98,700 people through out-migration.

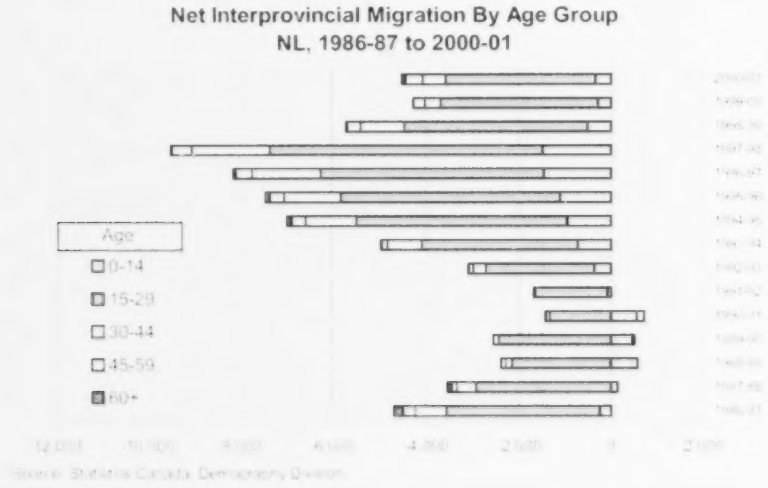
The past 10 years, from 1992-93 to 2001-02, have had the highest known level of out-migration; 137,600 people have left and only 81,800 have entered, for a net loss of approximately 55,800 people.

According to Statistics Canada net out-migration in recent years has been lower than the record levels set in 1997-98.



6.7 What age groups are we losing through migration?

Most of the net loss of people to the province is of young people. In 2000-01, 52% of those who left the province were between 15 and 29 years of age while only 39% of those who entered the province were in that age group.



6.8 Where do we live after we graduate from post-secondary?

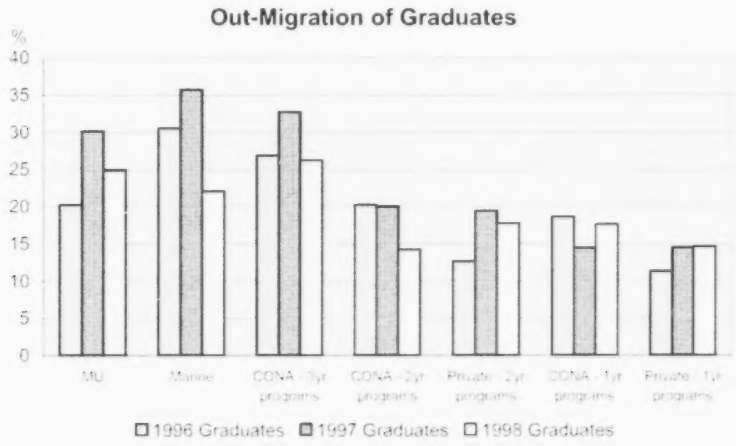
About a year and a half after they graduated, approximately 20% to 30% of Memorial University graduates of 1996, 1997 and 1998 were living outside the province. About

72% of those who graduated with bachelor degrees in 2000 were still living in the province when surveyed in late 2001.

The Marine Institute and the three-year CONA group had the lowest percentages of 1996 and 1997 graduates still living in the province a year and a half after graduation. About 76% of Marine Institute graduates from the year 2000 and 80% of all college graduates were still living in the province when surveyed in late 2001, as were about 93% of certified journeypersons.

Marine Institute graduates of 1998 who had left were most likely to be living outside the country or to a lesser degree in Nova Scotia and Ontario.

The proportion of graduates living outside the province a year and a half after graduation appears to be directly related to the length of the program undertaken. Graduates of longer programs were more likely to be living outside the province. University and college graduates living outside the province were for the most part in Ontario, Alberta and also in Nova Scotia.

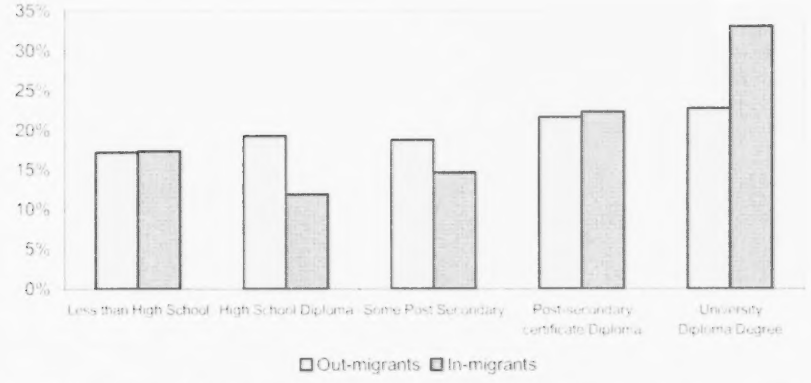


Source: Department of Education

6.9 What are the education levels of the migrants?

According to census numbers, approximately half of the out-migrants between 1991 and 1996 had completed a post-secondary education. This had risen from approximately 40% during the period from 1976 to 1981. In a 2002 survey of out-migrants, about 45% of respondents had completed post-secondary education.

Education Levels of Migrants - NL, 2002

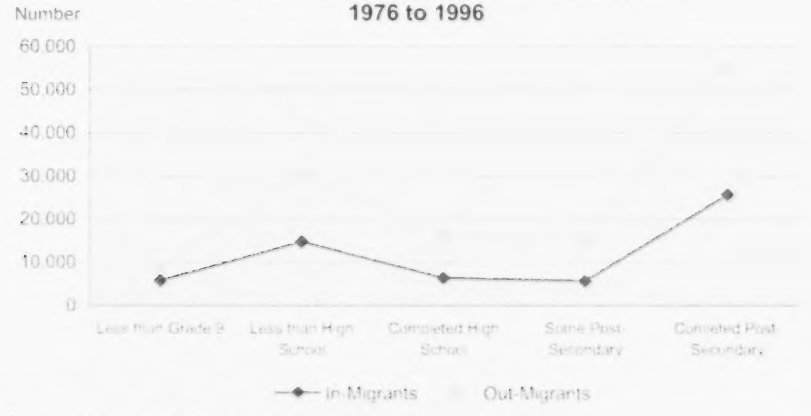


Source: Newfoundland & Labrador Statistics Agency, Survey of In Migrants, Survey of Out Migrants, 2002

Education levels of in-migrants mirrored that of out-migrants between 1976 and 1996, however, because in recent years there were far more out-migrants than in-migrants ,there likely has been a net loss of those who have completed post-secondary education. In a 2002 survey of in-migrants, about 56% had completed post-secondary.

Between 1976 and 1996, the percentage of people entering the province with less than grade 9 was slightly higher than the percentage leaving. From a 2002 survey, 17% of in-migrants and out-migrants had less than a high school education.

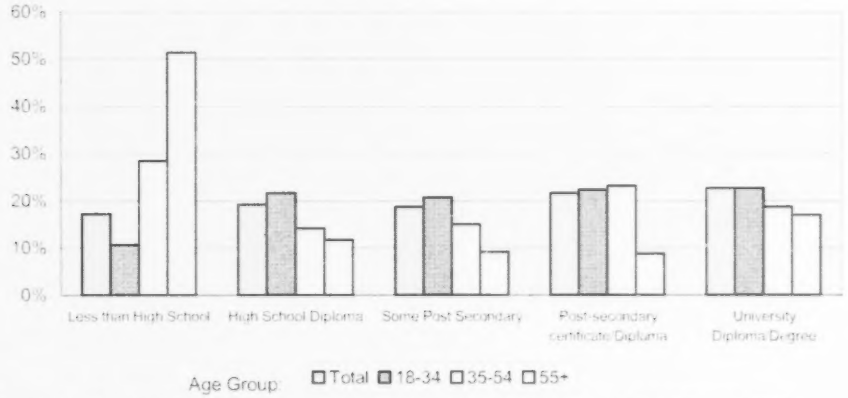
Education Levels of In-Migrants and Out-Migrants 1976 to 1996



Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population

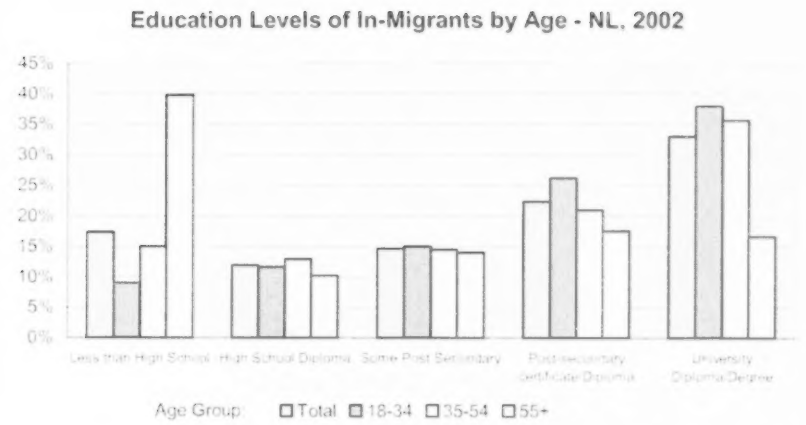
From a survey in 2002, out-migrants between 18 and 34 years of age are more likely to have a university diploma or degree than those over 34 years of age, while those older than 35 are more likely to have less than high school. This increases with age from 28% of those aged 35 to 54 having less than high school up to 51% for those 55 years of age and over.

Education Levels of Out-Migrants by Age - NL, 2002



Source: Newfoundland & Labrador Statistics Agency, Survey of In Migrants, Survey of Out Migrants, 2002

In-migrants show a different pattern in the survey. 38% of 18 to 34 year-olds and 36% of 35 to 54 year-olds had a university degree or diploma while about 40% of those 55 and older had less than high school.



Source: Newfoundland & Labrador Statistics Agency, Survey of In Migrants, Survey of Out Migrants, 2002

6.10 What is the place of birth of the migrants?

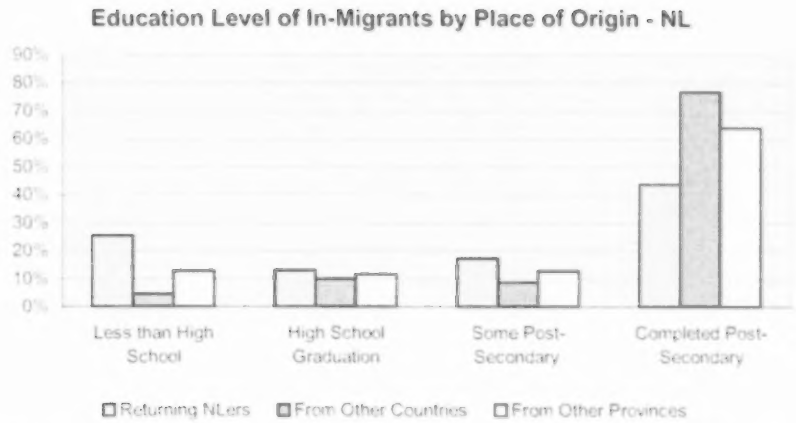
Forty-nine percent of those surveyed who entered the province between 1999 and 2001 were born in Newfoundland and Labrador, 32% were born in other parts of Canada and 19% in other countries.

Eighty-three percent of those surveyed who left the province between 1996 and 2001 were born in Newfoundland and Labrador, 12% were born in other parts of Canada and 4% in other countries.

6.11 Are returning Newfoundlanders and Labradorians similar to other in-migrants?

Only 17% of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians who returned to the province came back to accept a job or a job transfer compared to 47% of other Canadians and 58% of those from outside the country who entered the province.

Twenty-five percent of the returning Newfoundlanders and Labradorians had less than a high school education while the percentage of other migrants with this level of education was much lower. 44% of the return migrants had completed post-secondary while 77% of those from other countries and 64% of those from other provinces who entered the province had completed post-secondary.



Source: Newfoundland & Labrador Statistics Agency, Survey of In Migrants, Survey of Out Migrants, 2002

About 72% were employed before they moved back to the province compared to 46% after their return. In addition, 27% earned less than $25,000 before they returned while after they returned, 45% earned less than $25,000.

Men and women move back to the province for different reasons. Twenty-nine percent of the men returning to the province did so for employment reasons compared to only 14% of women.

6.12 Are people still planning to move away?

In 2001, 9% of the population had made plans to move away from where they currently lived. 73% of those people who have made plans to move intended to move away from the province.

Cross-Linkages

Cross Linkages: An Early Look

Many aspects of our lives are inter-related. In some instances our status in one area may cause certain outcomes in another area i.e. a cause and effect relationship. In other instances two factors may be related but it is unclear whether one actually causes the other or if both occur as a result of a third factor.

Many such linkages have been suggested and in some instances solid evidence is available - for example, does poverty affect our health? do education levels affect our incomes? are health behaviours affected by education levels? And so on.

We are just beginning to gather reliable evidence on how some of these relationships work.

7.1 Is there a relationship between educational achievement and parental occupation?

Performance of fifteen year-old students from Newfoundland and Labrador in a national assessment of reading, science and mathematics increased as the socio-economic status, measured according to parental occupation, increased.

Those in the top 25% (fourth quarter) of socio-economic status performed at the national level for reading and science, but not for mathematics. Those in the lower three quarters of socio-economic status performed below Canada.

Average Scores in Reading, Mathematics and Science, within National and Provincial Quarters of Family Socio-economic Status

	First Quarter Average	Second Quarter Average	Third Quarter Average	Fourth Quarter Average
Reading:				
NL	478 (4.2)	508 (4.7)	528 (5.5)	563 (4.9)
Canada	503 (2.2)	528 (2.1)	542 (1.9)	568 (2.0)
Mathematics:				
NL	478 (4.8)	504 (4.6)	528 (5.7)	535 (6.1)
Canada	508 (2.1)	527 (2.3)	539 (2.1)	563 (2.3)
Science:				
NL	482 (5.9)	507 (4.7)	524 (7.4)	560 (5.9)
Canada	501 (2.7)	523 (2.5)	537 (1.8)	560 (2.3)

Standard Error is in brackets

Source: Measuring Up - The Performance of Canada's Youth in Reading, Mathematics and Science

7.2 Does post-secondary education lead to employment?

About 78% of journeypersons certified in 2001 that remained in the province reported they were working full-time in a specified reference week in 2002, as did 90% of those who had left the province.

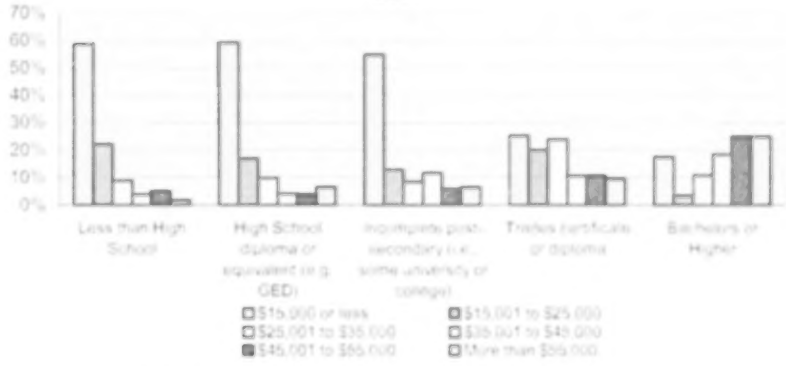
About 61% of Memorial University graduates who remained in the province reported they were employed full-time in a specified reference week in 2002 as did 74% of those who had left the province.

Two-thirds of college graduates reported they were employed full-time in a specified reference week in 2002 as did 78% of those who had left the province.

7.3 Do incomes vary with education levels?

In a 2001 survey, more than three-quarters of those with high school or less earned less than $25,000 - about 60% of them earned $15,000 or less. Only about 21% of those with a university degree earned less than $25,000.

Annual Income from Employment by Education level - NL, 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

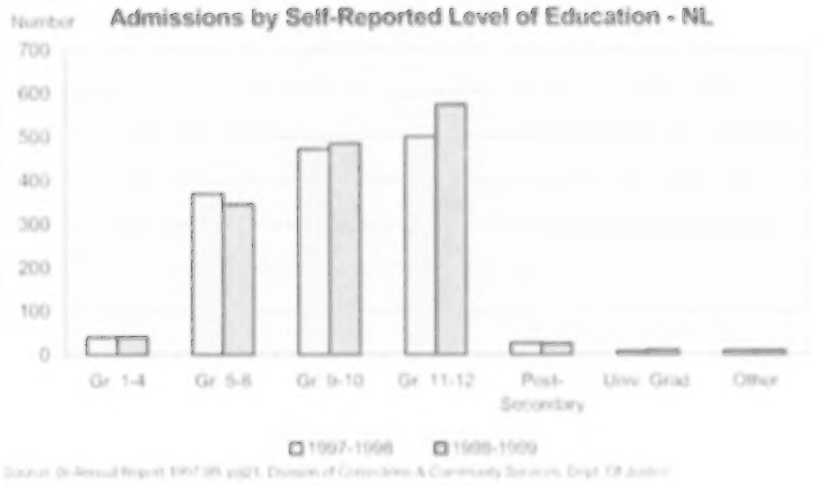
Most people interviewed in a 2001 survey earned more than minimum wage at all education levels, including those with less than high school. Most of the people who earned minimum wage had an education level of high school or less.

7.4 Is reliance on Social Assistance and education levels linked?

In 2001, 68% of adults receiving Social Assistance had not graduated from high school – 64% of women and 73% of men. These percentages have declined slowly since 1991 when 82% of men and 77% of women had not graduated from high school. In 2001, about 56% of youth aged 18-29 who were on Social Assistance, had not finished high school.

7.5 What education credentials do adult offenders have?

Offenders generally have low levels of education. In 1998-99, about 59% of people admitted to adult corrections centers had less than Grade 11, compared to 65% of those admitted two years earlier. Twenty-six percent had less than Grade 9.



Source: Annual Report 1997-98, p.21, Division of Corrections & Community Services, Dept. Of Justice

7.6 Does employment result in more supportive communities?

Employed people volunteer in somewhat higher proportions than those who are not in the labour force. This is the case for both this province and for Canada as a whole, although the Canadian proportions are lower than the provincial.

7.7 What is the effect of education, prosperity and self-reliance on our self-assessed health status?

Research on the Population Health Model indicates that a range of social and economic factors affect health. Early analysis of Newfoundland and Labrador health data shows that the relationships between self-assessed health status and other factors are consistent with this model.

Higher ratings on self-assessed health status are found in those with higher education levels, those who are employed rather than unemployed, those with higher levels of income and those who are able to cope financially.

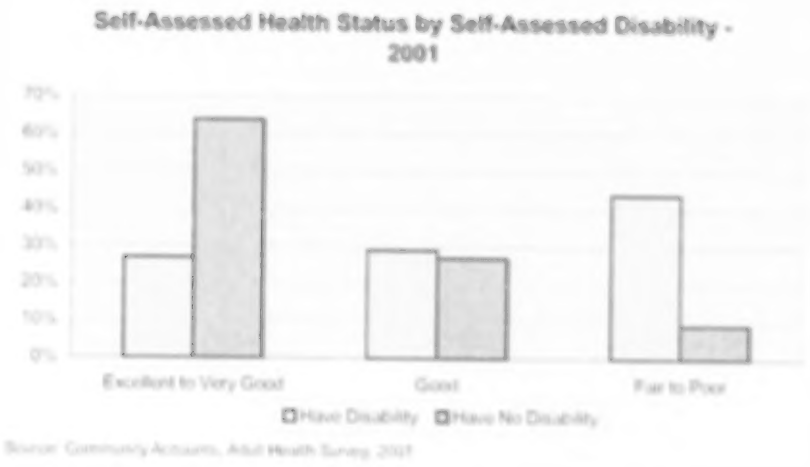
This preliminary analysis also found that people experiencing stress in their daily lives and those who feel they are unable to cope financially, have a lower likelihood of having excellent to good self-assessed health status.

7.8 Does gender affect our self-assessed health?

Almost identical proportions of men and women surveyed on the island portion of the province in 2001 assessed their health as very good to excellent, 58% and 59% respectively. About 14% of both men and women said their health was fair to poor.

7.9 How do people with disabilities assess their health?

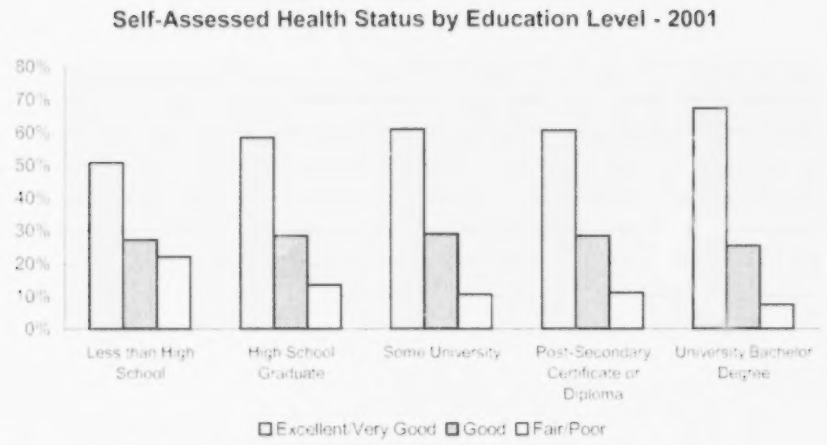
Only 27% of those who reported having a disability in a 2001 survey on the island portion of the province said their health was very good to excellent while 44% reported fair to poor health.



Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

7.10 Does education level affect our self-assessed health?

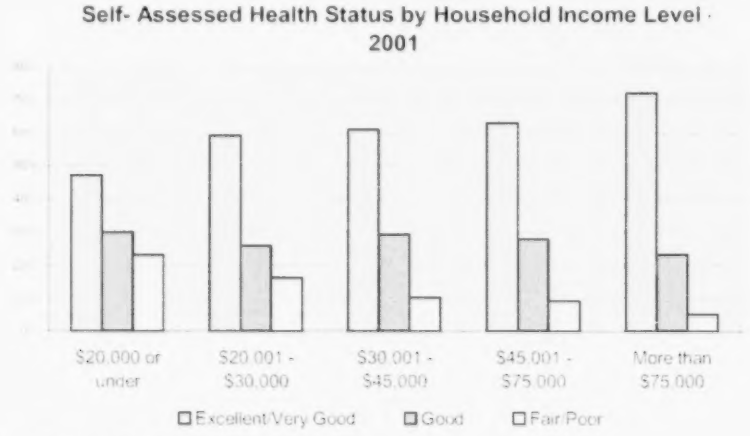
Those with higher education levels assess their health more positively than those with low education levels. In a 2001 survey on the island portion of the province about 67% of those with university degrees said their health was very good to excellent while only 7% reported fair to poor health. Only 51% of those who had not completed high school said their health was very good to excellent while about 22% reported fair to poor health.



Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

7.11 Does level of income affect our health?

Those with higher incomes report better health than do those with low incomes. In a 2001 survey on the island portion of the province about 72% of those with household incomes over $75,000 said their health was very good to excellent while only 5% reported fair to poor health. Only 47% of those with household incomes below $20,000 said their health was very good to excellent while about 23% reported fair to poor health.



Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

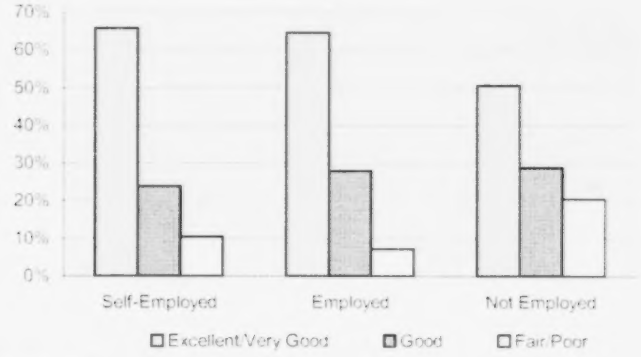
7.12 Does employment status affect our health?

Those who are employed or are self-employed assess their health more positively than

those who are not employed. In a 2001 survey on the island portion of the province about two-thirds of those who were either employed or self-employed said their health was very good to excellent. A slightly larger proportion of the self-employed reported fair to poor health than did those employed by an organization or company.

Only 51% of those who were not employed said their health was very good to excellent while about 21% reported fair to poor health.

Self-Assessed Health Status by Employment Status - 2001

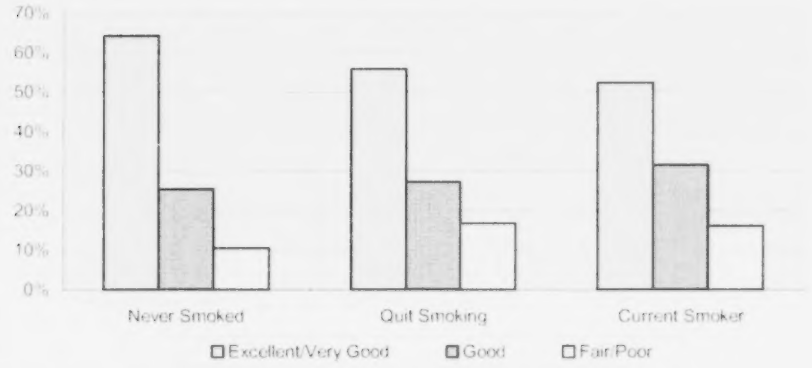


Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

7.13 Does smoking affect our self-assessed health?

Those who have never smoked report better health than those who smoke as well as those who have quit smoking. In a 2001 survey on the island portion of the province about 64% of those who had never smoked said their health was very good to excellent while about 11% reported fair to poor health. About 52% of those who were current smokers and 56% of those who had quit smoking said their health was very good to excellent while about 16% and 17% respectively, reported fair to poor health.

Self-Assessed Health Status by Smoking Status - 2001

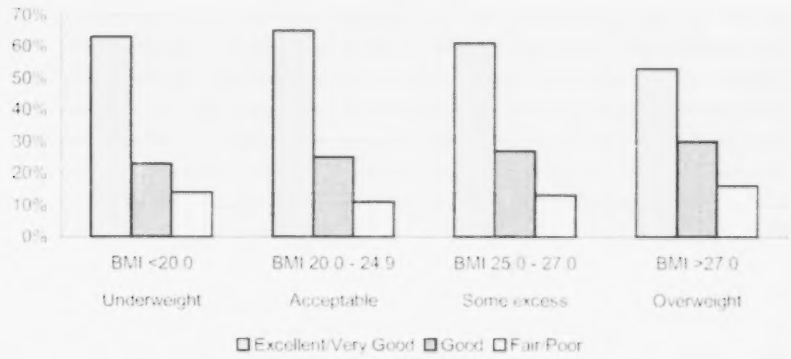


Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

7.14 Does our Body Mass Index (BMI) affect our self-assessed health?

In a 2001 survey on the island portion of the province about 65% of those with the desirable BMI range of 20 to 24.9 said their health was very good to excellent while about 10% reported fair to poor health. As BMI increases the proportion that said their health was very good to excellent decreases. About 53% of those with a BMI of more than 27 said their health was very good to excellent while about 17% reported fair to poor health.

Self-assessed Health Status by Body Mass Index* (BMI) - 2001



Source: Community Accounts, Adult Health Survey, 2001

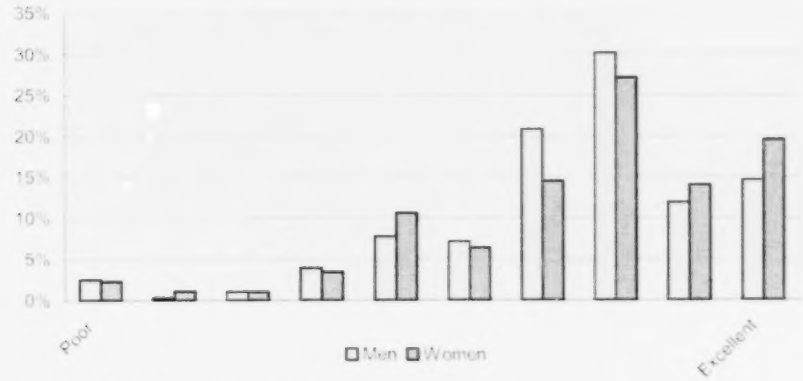
*Canadian Standard

Quality of Life

In the previous sections of this report, well-being was examined by assessing a variety of factors related to health, education, prosperity and self-reliance, community vibrancy and supportiveness, community safety and regional sustainability. Some of the indicators assessed were positive while others were not. When taken together these aspects of well-being determine our overall quality of life. However all aspects of well-being do not contribute equally to quality of life and the relative importance of each factor may be different for each individual. Therefore, at this time the closest index we have for assessing well-being is based on a self-assessment.

A survey of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians in 2001 asked respondents to rate their quality of life. This survey found that 59% of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians rated their quality of life as very good to excellent.

Perceived Quality of Life - NL, 2001

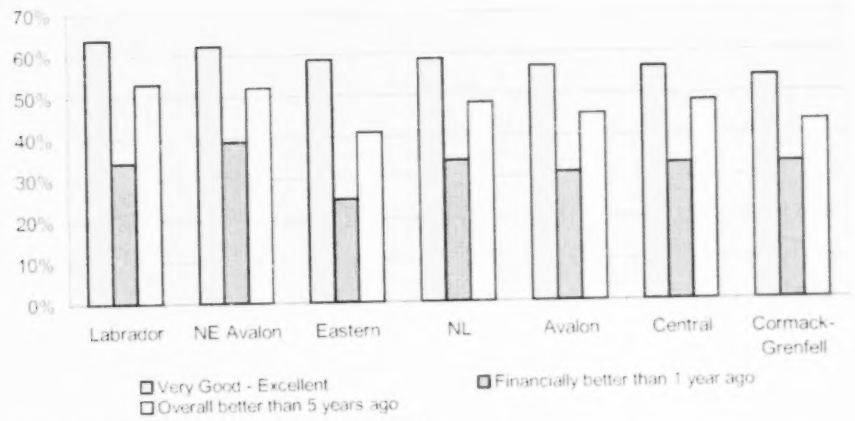


Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001

Sixty-four percent of people in the Labrador SSP region felt they had a very good to excellent quality of life compared to 54% of the people in the Cormack-Grenfell SSP region.

Far fewer people (about 34%) feel their financial quality of life has improved since last year but almost half feel overall quality of life has improved over the past five years. Only 13% felt their quality of life had worsened over the past five years.

Quality of Life



Source: Community Accounts, Labour Activity Survey, 2001